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KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

TIME-TABLE. WEEKS DAYS.

	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
Kowloon ...Dep.	6.40	8.05	9.10	10.00	12.00	1.15	2.15	4.25	5.45
Yuenai ...Dep.	6.45	8.10	9.15	10.05	12.05	1.20	2.20	4.30	5.50
Shatin ...Dep.	7.01	8.26	9.31	10.21	12.21	1.26	2.26	4.36	5.56
Taipei ...Dep.	7.18	8.43	9.48	10.38	12.38	1.43	2.43	4.53	6.13
Taipei Market Dep.	7.30	8.55	10.00	10.50	12.50	1.55	2.55	5.05	6.25
Fanning ...Dep.	7.50	9.15	10.20	11.10	1.10	2.10	3.10	5.20	6.40
Shenzhen ...Dep.	7.55	9.20	10.25	11.15	1.15	2.15	3.15	5.25	6.45
Shenzhen ...Arr.	7.41	9.06	10.11	11.01	1.01	2.01	3.01	5.11	6.31
Canton ...Arr.	11.50	5.38	—	—	—	6.03	—	—	—

	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
Canton ...Dep.	7.18	8.05	10.24	11.09	12.27	2.48	4.41	5.49	6.24
Shenzhen ...Dep.	7.35	8.22	10.41	11.26	12.44	3.05	4.58	6.06	6.31
Fanning ...Dep.	7.50	8.37	10.56	11.41	1.00	3.01	4.54	6.02	6.27
Taipei Market Dep.	7.40	8.27	10.46	11.31	1.30	3.31	5.24	6.32	6.57
Taipei ...Dep.	7.55	8.42	11.01	11.46	1.45	3.46	5.39	6.47	7.02
Shatin ...Dep.	7.57	8.44	11.03	11.48	1.47	3.48	5.41	6.49	7.04
Yuenai ...Dep.	8.11	8.58	11.17	12.02	2.01	4.02	5.55	7.03	7.28
Kowloon ...Arr.	8.17	9.04	11.21	12.06	2.05	4.06	5.59	7.07	7.32

SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
Kowloon ...Dep.	8.40	9.05	9.30	10.04	11.09	12.00	2.24	3.15	5.15
Yuenai ...Dep.	8.45	9.10	9.35	10.09	11.14	12.05	2.29	3.20	5.20
Shatin ...Dep.	9.01	9.26	9.51	10.25	11.30	12.21	2.43	3.34	5.34
Taipei ...Dep.	9.18	9.43	10.08	10.42	11.47	12.38	3.00	3.51	5.51
Taipei Market Dep.	9.30	9.55	10.20	10.54	11.59	12.50	3.12	4.03	6.03
Fanning ...Dep.	9.50	10.15	10.40	11.14	12.19	1.10	3.33	4.24	6.24
Shenzhen ...Dep.	9.55	10.20	10.45	11.19	12.24	1.15	3.38	4.29	6.29
Shenzhen ...Arr.	9.41	10.06	10.31	11.05	12.10	1.05	3.24	4.15	6.15
Canton ...Arr.	11.50	—	—	—	—	6.03	—	—	—

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Our London Letter.

THOMAS HARDY'S FUNERAL.

THE ARRANGEMENTS AT THE ABBEY.

MR. ARNOLD BENNETT'S PROTEST.

CHALLENGE TO PHILIPPINE TRADE IN HEMP.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

LONDON, Jan. 21st.

My reference to Thomas Hardy in last week's article was written at the moment when it was believed he had recovered from his illness. But he was a very old man, and, suffering a relapse, his end came very suddenly. The papers have been full of his work and his place in literature. There could scarcely have been more written in the way of homage on the passing of a popular king.

The remarkable fact in this connection is that Hardy was a retiring, modest man who hated publicity, and for years never emerged from the seclusion of his home near Dorchester. It is not many years since his photograph was first published. He had the telephone at his house, but he never used it himself until 1921, when he spoke by telephone for the first time in his life, and he was as pleased as a child with a new toy. He used to ring up his friends for the pleasure of the thing. The incident is trivial, but it throws a side-light on his mode of life.

As a Novelist.

There has been a great deal of writing about Hardy as a novelist. But I doubt very much whether he is read to any extent by the present generation. In the 'nineties, however, he was a "best-seller," though the phrase had not then been coined. There is a marvelous power in his work, but it is all overshadowed by a profound pessimism. His stories have been compared with Greek tragedy, the characters playing their appointed parts, and the drama of life as he saw it, and presented it moving to its inevitable and destined end, like the degree of Fate. One wonders whether posterity will accord him the place in literature given him by his contemporaries as the greatest writer of his time.

The Abbey Burial.

In his wildest flights of imagination Thomas Hardy never expected that he would find a last resting place in Westminster Abbey. His wish was, in fact, often expressed that he should be buried in the churchyard at Stinsford, a place he loved. As a Dorset man he made the Wessex country famous, and many think that he would have been buried there. But the offer of a grave in the national Valhalla was accepted by his wife—the lady who was his secretary, and whom he married after the death of his first wife. A compromise was, however, made; Hardy's heart was buried at Stinsford in the grave in which his first wife was interred, and after cremation his ashes were laid by the side of Charles Dickens in Poet's Corner. Dickens was the last eminent novelist who was buried in the Abbey.

Arrangements Criticised.

It would not be surprising if the way in which such things are done in the future was severely revised. The offer of a burial in the Abbey rests with the Dean of Westminster. His will is paramount in these matters, though it may be supposed that he acts after consultation with other people. But in the case of Thomas Hardy the astounding practice was adopted of putting the whole of the seating arrangements and the issuing of tickets of admission in the hands of Macmillan & Co., the publishers. Mr. Arnold Bennett has made a spirited protest. He declares that the Society of Authors was the obvious and proper body to be entrusted with the allocation of places for the funeral in Westminster Abbey. The Society includes in its membership every author of note in the country, and besides, Hardy was its President. Why the public at large and those associated with authorship should have to apply to

(Continued on next Column.)

ENGLAND'S PREMIER PEER.

THE YOUNG DUKE OF NORFOLK.

KEEN ALL-ROUND SPORTS-MAN.

ARUNDEL.

Hunting, fishing, and all sorts of sports, the young Duke of Norfolk, who is the county's greatest sportsman of the year on Friday night—the hall, given at Arundel Castle by the Duchess of Norfolk, says the *Evening Standard* of June 16th.

It is expected that the gathering will number from 800 to 1,000 people.

The beautiful Baron's Hall, where the ball will take place, is nearly 300 feet long and the scene will recall the splendour of other days.

The young Duke of Norfolk who is a great hunting-man, is not 21 till next year. He is head of the peerage of England and hereditary Earl Marshal.

Arundel people "see in this function something of a return to the old splendour that has been overshadowed of late years because of the necessity for economy following payment of the heavy death duties on the late Duke's £17,000,000 estate.

Round Arundel no one speaks except in terms of the highest praise of the young Duke.

"He is a splendid fellow, good looking, an athlete, an excellent shot, and good at cricket and lawn tennis," a resident said to me today. "He is as fond of motoring as he is of riding a horse."

"The Duke is also a splendid dancer, and he is looking forward to the ball on Friday. His interest is shared fully by his sisters and the whole county. The gathering, however, is looked on as a strictly private event."

"The Duchess has been responsible personally for all the arrangements."

a business firm with no qualifications for the delicate task allotted to them is a question Mr. Bennett cannot understand.

As things turned out, only two tickets were sent to the Society of Authors, two representatives of literature being apparently considered all that was required at the national funeral of the foremost figure in literature. Perhaps, it is more surprising that there were a hundred vacant places in Poet's Corner, which accommodation could have been filled many times over had the ceremony been managed differently.

Two Oak Chests.

There have been a good many mysteries connected with the pier at Southend-on-Sea that stretches for over a mile from the shore. Passengers on the P. & O. boats bound for abroad know that they leave the Thames looking like a thin streak of indigo on the estuary. But there has never been a more perplexing mystery to visitors to Southend than that of the two oak chests. They have been bolted to the decking of the pier at its extreme end in a position to allow the tide to wash in and out of holes with which they are perforated. And for a year at intervals savants have arrived from London and looked inside.

The chests contain hundreds of yards of Sisal hemp and Manila hemp, both kinds being subjected to the action of sea water as a test. Hitherto it has been held that Sisal rope rots in sea water and that it swells more when wetted. Hence the prolonged experiment. The final report has just been made on the authority of the Department for Overseas Trade, and the verdict is that Sisal hemp is just as good as Manila, and is some respects even better.

An Imperial Question.

There is an Imperial aspect to the two oak chests, as will be apparent when it is stated that Sisal hemp is grown in Tanganyika and Kenya Colony, whereas Manila is the product of the Philippine Islands. Practically all the hemp used on ships for hawsers comes from the hemp grown in the Philippines. But the result of the experiment at Southend gives ground for the belief that the trade will be diverted, and this would mean two millions sterling per annum for a new British Empire industry. The Philippines are of course under American control, and the monopoly of the hemp business seems in a fair way of being ended.—H.B.

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RADIO COMPETITION.

GREAT NORTHERN SAFE-
GUARDING ITS
RESERVES.

CABLE COMPANIES AND THE
MARCONI CO.

The Board of Directors of the Great Northern Telegraph Co., Ltd., announce that negotiations have taken place with a group of shareholders who have expressed a wish for higher dividends. As a result the Board have decided to submit the below-mentioned proposals at an extraordinary general meeting, to be held at a date to be fixed later, viz.:-

The Great Northern Telegraph Co. to issue new shares to an amount of £500,000. These new shares are to be issued gratuitously to a trust company, which will distribute gratuitously to the shareholders of the Great Northern Telegraph Co. shares of the trust company to the amount of £450,000, one 25 share for each £10 share in the Great Northern Telegraph Co. As far as circumstances will permit, the Board of Directors will propose that yearly dividends of 20 per cent. be paid on the increased share capital of the Great Northern Telegraph Co., viz., £2,000,000, and to the extent necessary to make this possible, the Board of Directors will credit the revenue account with certain interest which has not hitherto been credited to the said account. As already mentioned it is proposed that the share capital of the new trust company shall be £450,000. For payment of dividends on this capital will be available the dividends on £500,000 shares of the Great Northern Telegraph Co. after deduction of the expenses of the trust company (i.e., mainly taxes). Endeavours will be made to have the shares of the trust company included in the official list of the Stock Exchange at Copenhagen.

As regards the question as to whether the Great Northern Telegraph Co. will be able to pay dividends of 20 per cent. on the increased capital, shareholders are referred to the remarks concerning radio competition which have appeared in the Company's annual reports of later years. It is to be expected that such competition will increase, and at the present moment it is impossible to foresee to what extent the receipts will be influenced thereby.

The above arrangement, according to which the new shares are to be issued to a trust company, is proposed in order to tie up a considerable number of shares, so as to make an attempt upon the Company's reserves more difficult. The whole arrangement is fully approved by the group of shareholders above referred to.

Stop To End Rivalry.

The Eastern and Associated Telegraph Companies and Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Company, Ltd., authorize the following announcement:-

Sir William Pender, on behalf of the Eastern and Associated Telegraph Companies, and Sir Gilbert Gamsey, on behalf of Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., have been asked to co-operate with a view to making a joint report for submission to their respective boards as to a possible arrangement in the joint interests of the respective companies.

This is the first step towards effecting a working arrangement between the cable companies and the Marconi Company to secure the uninterrupted development of both methods of communication. Cable companies' shares rallied smartly. On the other hand, Marconi shares dropped.

CAPITAL FOR RUSSIA.

JAPANESE HELP FOR SOVIET INDUSTRIES.

"The prospects for the investment of Japanese capital in Russia are fairly good, particularly in the oilfields."

Viscount Goto, who heads a Japanese delegation which has been studying economic conditions in Russia, made this statement to the *British United Press* at Moscow on January 18th.

Viscount Goto also confirmed the reports that have been received from Alexandrovsk regarding Sakhalin that the Japanese concessionaires are developing the work of building reservoirs and electric plants.

The Japanese Mission was to leave Moscow for home on January 17th. Apparently the hopes of the Soviet authorities that the visit would produce a political rapprochement have not yet been realized. According to the *Riga correspondent of The Times*, before leaving, Viscount Goto referred in complimentary terms to the museums, art galleries, and similar institutions of Moscow, but on the subject of the relations between the Soviet and Japan all he did was to repeat his own earlier statement that "the path is beset with difficulties," and to add that though a mutual understanding had not been reached, a trade agreement was most desirable.

A POPULAR RESORT.

PROSPERITY OF WEIHAI-WEI.

IN SPITE OF AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE.

WATER AND LIGHTING SCHEMES.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

WEIHAIWEI, February 7th.
Over twenty years ago a Shanghai paper declared, "Weihaiwei, with its magnificent climate, equal to that of the Riviera, and its other natural advantages, bids fair to become the sanatorium for the whole China coast." That the prophecy has been only partly fulfilled is mainly due to the erratic policy of the London Government and the consequent chronic uncertainty as to our political future. Without security of tenure substantial progress, extensive development, have not been possible, for capital is proverbially shy. It follows that, if ever the history of Weihaiwei as a British possession comes to be written, it will be so far as the foreigner is concerned—little more than a dismal record of things begun and not finished, of plans on paper that have not gone further, of "hope deferred that maketh the heart sick."

Fortunately, notwithstanding an uncertain future, in spite, too, of London's inexplicable reluctance to sanction public expenditure, all enterprise is not dead, stagnation is not complete and absolute. Further, with the recent resumption of control by the Colonial Office, there has been a refreshing change in the local atmosphere. For some years past the temptation to cry, "Let us eat, drink and be merry; for tomorrow cometh our reckoning," has been irresistible. To-day we seem to have adopted a new motto—"Business as Usual." The official wet-blanket has been restored to store and reasonable encouragement is being given to legitimate enterprise.

While conditions and prospects affecting foreign enterprises have been extremely unsatisfactory since the announcement of rendition six years ago, there has been a progressive increase in the business done by Chinese firms, with a corresponding increase in the revenue returns. As the following figures show, the total collected in 1927 is appreciably higher than in the previous year, itself a "record" year:

	REVENUE.
1928	£240,782
1927	247,561
	EXPENDITURE.
1928	£211,731
1927	223,793

The Territory of Weihaiwei was once officially described as "poverty-stricken," and the total of annual subsidies from the British taxpayer in former years approximates £1,200,000. To-day we are in a highly satisfactory position; not only has outside assistance become unnecessary, but there is at the Bank a credit balance of approximately £175,000 in favour of the Local Government, made up of the balances of recent years.

Pax Britannica with its "brutal imperialism" has created a sense of security, a reasonably honest and just administration, the principal factors and causes of local prosperity, which is in startling contrast with the conditions on the other side of our boundary. It follows that about the last thing desired by the local population is the retrocession of the Territory and the advent of their own officials before a stable government is established at Peking.

Primitive Conditions.

The stranger, accustomed to the conveniences and advantages of life under more civilized conditions and up-to-date surroundings, who visits Weihaiwei for the first time, and there have been many such during the past year—cannot fail to be struck by the primitive conditions under which we live and move and have our being. He is the more astonished when he is told that the Territory has been under British rule for nearly thirty years. Whether the cause of stagnation and paralysis is avoidable, or not, the fact remains that in such important details as water supply, street lighting and sanitation, Port Edward, the hub of our small universe, is to-day practically where it was over a generation ago there is little to distinguish the place from a third-rate Highland village.

Water.

Last summer, in common with the rest of North China, we experienced a heat wave and another "record" was established, the maximum temperature at Port Edward for July 26th, 27th and 28th being 101, 100 and 101, respectively. The excessive heat was, no doubt, due in part to lack of moisture, the rainfall in the summer months—July, August and September—being only 8.7 inches, whereas the total for the same months of the previous year was 24.5 inches. This partial drought has emphasized the long-felt need of a proper water supply and a scheme is under discussion for sinking an artesian well and the construction of a small reservoir in such a position as will deliver water to the town under pressure through hydrants on the main streets. For

(Continued on next column.)

HONG KONG STOCK EXCHANGE.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FEBRUARY 17th, 1928.	
H.K. Bank	buy, 1,260 sa.
Do.	London, £131 nom.
Chartered Bank	£214 buy.
Mercantile Bank A. & M.	£232 nom.
Do.	£214 nom.
P. & O. Bank	£210 nom.
East Asia Bank	£171 buy.
Canton Insurance	£114 buy.
Union Insurance	£111 buy, 310 sa.
North China Ins.	£143 nom.
Yangtze Insurance	M. 444 buy.
China Underwriters	£22 nom.
China Fire Insurance	£215 nom.
Hong Kong Fire Ins.	£265 buy.
Overseas	£261 buy.
H.K. Steamboats	£22 buy, 2,90 sel.
H.K. Tugs	£23 buy.
Indo-China (Prof.)	£284 buy.
Do.	£240 nom.
Shall Transports	£27 nom.
Waterboats	£17 buy.
Benguet	£24 sel.
Kailan Mining Ad.	£67 buy.
Langkai (combined)	£154 nom.
Do.	£10 nom.
Shan. Explorations	£125 nom.
Shanghai Loans	£10 nom.
Sauze	£44 nom.
Tromoh Mines	£123 nom.
H. K. & W. Wharves	£124 sel., 132 sa.
H. K. & W. Docks	£48 buy.
China Providents	£35 buy.
New Engineering	£163 buy.
Shanghai Docks	£107 nom.
Two Cottons	£174 buy, 7,60 sel.
Oriental	£12 buy.
Shanghai Cottons (old)	£124 buy.
Do.	£122 buy.
H. K. & S. Hotels	£32 buy, 8,30 sa.
H. K. Land	£44 buy, 65 sel.
Shanghai Land	£144 buy.
Hampden Estates	£49 buy.
Hong Kong Realities	£49 buy.
H.K. Territorials	£1 nom.
H.K. Tramways	£284 buy.
Peak Trams (old)	£14 nom.
Do.	£84 nom.
Star Ferries	£34 x div. nom.
China Lights (combined)	£17 sel.
Do.	£18 nom.
H. K. Electric	£24 buy.
Macao Electric	£31 buy.
Telephones	£435 nom.
China Buses	£119 nom.
Singapore Tractions	£119 nom.
China Sugars	£10 sa.
Malayan Sugars	£277 nom.
Canton Loss	£14 buy.
Cementa (combined)	£107/80 sa.
Do.	£10 nom.
Do.	£11 nom.
H. K. Bopes (old)	£21 sa.
Do.	£3,90 buy.
United Asbestos	£10 sel.
Dairy Farms	£19 buy.
Watsons	£12,30 buy.
Der A. Wings	£36 sel.
Loan Guaranties	£22 nom.
Macintoshia	£22 sel.
Sinners	£9 buy.
Wm. Powells	£5 nom.
H. K. Amusements	£24 buy.
H. K. Constructions	£14 nom.
Bique Indina G.S. Bonds	£67 nom.
H. K. Govt. Loans	5% prem. buy.
buy—buyers; sel.—sellers; sa.—sales; nom.—nominal.	

EXCHANGE RATES.

[BRITISH WIRELESS SERVICE.]

RUGBY, Feb. 16th.

Paris	124
Brussels	32.02
Amsterdam	12.11
Milan	92.05
Copenhagen	18.20
Vienna	34.80
Helsingfors	193
Lisbon	2.16/81
Bucharest	7924
Buenos Aires	47.29/32
New York	4.57
Geneva	20.34
Berlin	20.43
Stockholm	18.18
Oslo	18.31
Prague	1644
Madrid	29.87
Athens	3073
Rio	5.59/84
Bombay	1/5.15/16
Yokohama	1/11.3/32
Shanghai	2/64
Hong Kong	2/63
Silver (spot)	28.3/18
Silver (forward)	28.3/18

some time past money has been accumulating to meet the cost of constructing a breakwater at Port Edward and the total now stands at about £40,000. It is proposed—and I understand, the local Chamber of Commerce has consented—to abandon the breakwater scheme and to expend this money on the scheme for a proper water supply.

Light.

For more years than we care to think about, the scheme for electric lighting of the town—irreverently described as "village"—by some of our visitors—has been a matter of public and private discussion. In the beginning, the wayfarer at night either carried his own lantern, or walked in Cimmerian darkness relieved here and there by oil lamps of an almost prehistoric pattern. Subsequently some improvement was effected in the more important streets by the introduction of patent lamps with high-sounding titles in a chronic condition of disrepair. A new scheme for electric lighting has been submitted to London and approved, the usual regulations printed and issued, and it really seems as if this long-standing reproach on a community that would like to regard itself as progressive is about to be removed. If at the eleventh hour another hitch occurs, it will probably be due to the action of Chinese officials—outside the Territory, who, with an eye on rendition, seem to afflicted with an unhealthy craving to have a finger in the pie.

STAR THEATRE

W. R. BANVARD

THE BANVARD MUSICAL COMEDY COMPANY

(ORGANIZED BY MR. LEW MARKS)

TO-NIGHT

Saturday, February 18th at 9.15 p.m.

"QUEEN HIGH"

(By arrangement with Sir Arthur Butt)

Sunday, February 19th at 9.15 p.m.

"REVIEW OF REVUES"

(The most sparkling items of five revues)

PRICES:

First Two Rows of Stalls \$5; Orchestra Stalls and Dress Circle \$4; Stalls \$2; and Back Stalls \$1.

BOOKING AT MOUTRIE'S AND THE STAR

Late Tram to the Peak.

STAR THEATRE

ROBERT & ANATOLE

KITAIN

FAMOUS

VIOLINIST & PIANIST

GRAND

MUSICAL RECITAL

One Night Only

THURSDAY, Feb. 23rd
at 9.15 p.m.

PRICES: \$3, \$2 & \$1.

Booking at Moutrie's and Star.

THE BARRISTER'S WIG.

PORTIA HAS HER'S WASHED.

More and more women are being cowed to the bar, and in Mr. Justice Avey's court the other day a barrister husband and wife were both among the junior counsel in a case. One of the best-known women barristers is dashing pioneer enough to have her wig washed, as she declares that the dignity of the law need not be bound up with its sanitation. At first this laundry business was regarded with horror by the lady's learned associates, but I have now heard a well-founded rumour that her example has been followed by one and approved by several others.

Will this lead to a confusion as to the meaning of the old phrase "Wigs on the green?" The old idea was that the dirtier your wig the more you had used it, and, therefore, the bigger your practice. Sir Edward Carson was the proud possessor, in his greatest days as fashionable silk, of the dirtiest wig in the Courts.

INDIGESTION STOPS AT ONCE.

Whatever strides science may have made in combating diseases, no better remedy has been discovered for stopping indigestion than "Bismarck" Magnesia, which to-day is used by thousands of stomach sufferers with never-failing success. "Bismarck" Magnesia treats indigestion in the only logical way, by instantly neutralising excess acids, preventing fermentation, and soothing, healing and strengthening the inflamed stomach lining, which soon becomes healthy and strong. "Bismarck" Magnesia is sold by all chemists in both powder and tablet forms. It is the remedy that is recommended by doctors. It is used in hospitals and by thousands of one-time sufferers who have proved again and again that "Bismarck" Magnesia is an unfailing reliever of all acid-caused digestive troubles.



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In the interests of
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Obtainable everywhere

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HONG KONG.

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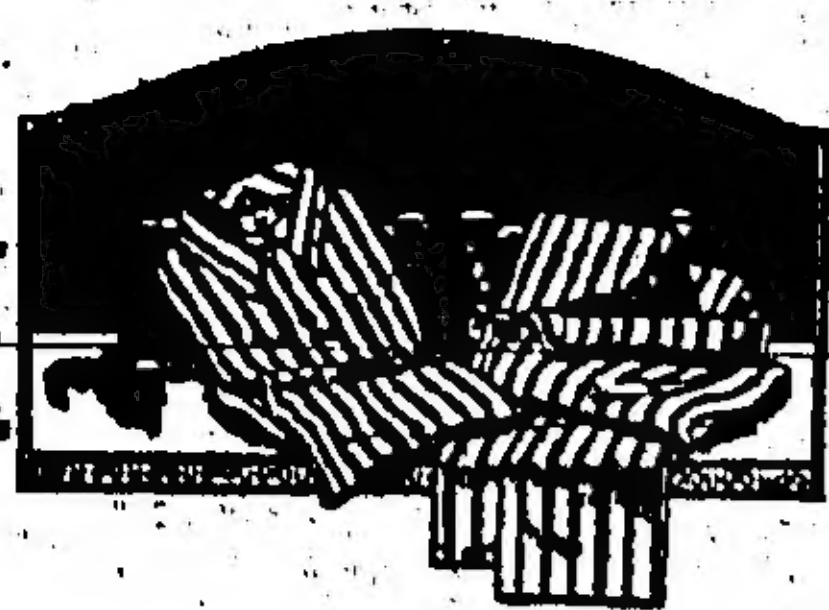
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[106]



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BATH ROBES
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SLIPPERS
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finish material in plain
blue, mauve, grey or
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Tailored to fit generously
with plenty of room for a
good "stretch"
\$12.50, \$13.50 per suit.
Others Quotations from \$8.50.
Less our usual 10% cash discount.

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MEN'S WEAR SPECIALISTS
ALEXANDRA BUILDING, DES VOEUX ROAD

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GAME - REDUCED PRICES
but
QUALITY MAINTAINED

COCK PHEASANTS	\$1.35 each
HEN	\$1.00
WILD DUCK	\$1.00
TEAL	.40
PIGEONS	.35
SNIFE	.30

ORDER EARLY.

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"MARCHANT'S WHISKY AND SODA PLEASE"

is the call of those whose good taste
enables them to appreciate, and
prefer, an old, well-matured whisky.

MARCHANT'S WHISKY

is supplied to the Ward-rooms and
Messes of the Navy, Army and Air Force

throughout the world, and
can now be obtained at the
leading Clubs and Hotels
in Hong Kong.

Buy a Bottle for the House.

Obtainable from the leading Stores or the
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T. E. GRIFFITH, LTD.

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(A.P.R. 15)

Lubricants
SOCONY MOTOR OIL

CHINESE GUNMAN TO DIE.

FOR MURDER OF CHINESE
CONSTABLE.

BELIEVES HE WILL "COME
BACK TO EARTH"

DEFIANT ATTITUDE TO THE
LAST.

Chan Hung, the Chinese gunman charged at the Criminal Sessions, before the Chief Justice (Sir Henry Gollan) with the murder of a Chinese police searcher, was found guilty and sentenced to death. The crime was committed during a running fight between the police and armed robbers on December 7th, in the course of which Police Sergeant T. McMahon and a Chinese and Indian constable were wounded and two Chinese killed.

The jury retired for five minutes only. Sentence was duly pronounced and on being led by warders from the dock prisoner declared in a loud voice that he would die a "glorious death," and that his people were not to worry, as in several tens of years he would return to the earth, live as a brave man and do further acts of daring.

The Crown case was that prisoner shot down and killed Wan Wong Chi, a Chinese police searcher, on duty at the Yau-mat Ferry Wharf, when the latter endeavored to stop prisoner's flight, and that prisoner was afterwards wounded by the police and arrested.

Prisoner was not put into the witness-box.

REPLY FOR THE CROWN.

Replying for the Crown, Mr. Fitzroy said that the condition of a spent bullet, to a large extent, depended on the quality of the ammunition. It could not possibly be said that a bullet was spent or fired at a certain distance until they knew the state of the powder and the weight of the bullet. Prosecutor submitted that the evidence of identification was very strong indeed. Counsel for the defence had omitted to mention that the prisoner was identified by *fohis* from the restaurant as having taken part in the armed robbery there.

Counsel challenged the statement of police witnesses who claimed that they never lost sight of their quarry although he twisted and turned round eight corners and they were from 50 to 50 feet behind him. It was only natural for police officers to make the mistake of thinking that the prisoner was the man they started chasing. They arrived at Chin Loong Street and found a wounded man lying on the ground, unconscious, dressed in a white coat and black trousers. That was the only ground on which the Crown witnesses had based their identification of the fugitive.

The only conclusion they could come to from such unsatisfactory evidence was, that at different times during the chase, more than one man had been hunted. One man was lost sight of, and another man picked up and the chase continued.

Counsel submitted that the evidence against the prisoner was very far from conclusive and he should be given the benefit of the doubt.

SPEECH FOR THE DEFENCE.

Mr. Leo d'Almada, Jr., in addressing the Court for the defence, said that he was not calling any evidence.

He emphasized that the prisoner was entitled to the benefit of any doubt that the jury might have as to his guilt. Counsel then submitted that there were many inconsistencies in the case for the Crown. Dr. Craig had said the bullet extracted from prisoner's thigh must have been spent, and yet police witnesses had said they were between 30 and 50 feet away when they fired. The bullet extracted from the heart of Wan Wong Chi, the police searcher, was according to Dr. Cannon fired at point blank range. Against that they had the evidence of Wan's fellow searcher, who was with him at the time, and who said that the fugitive was 10 or 12 feet from Wan when the former fired.

Serjt. O'Flaherty admitted that he had no opportunity of getting close to the fugitive; that it was night, and that he could recognise the fugitive only by his clothes. The identification of other witnesses was also weak. Only one had seen the fugitive's face and that one only for a fraction of a second.

REPLY FOR THE CROWN.

Mr. Fitzroy replied for the Crown, and, after reviewing the evidence tendered, submitted that the jury were bound to convict in this case. He submitted that there was not the shadow of a doubt, much less any reasonable doubt that prisoner was the man who killed, without any justification, the Chinese constable in question.

(Continued on next Column.)

THE Y.M.C.A. CAN- TEENS.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

LOSS ON WORKING.

THE NAVAL AND MILITARY
FUND.

The working accounts for the ten months ended December 31st of the Naval and Military Y.M.C.A. in Chater Road, Hong Kong, and Peking Road, Kowloon, show that there has been a loss on each establishment.

At the Chater Road branch the cost of goods sold was \$27,624.80. Wages amounted to \$1,110.03; lighting and heating to \$1,983.07; printing and stationery \$498.20 and general expenses, repairs and renewals, laundry, etc., \$1,310.74, making a total of \$32,526.84. The sales were \$37,521.27, leaving a deficiency of \$5,005.57.

The loss at the Kowloon branch was less, being \$607.44. The cost of goods sold was \$18,117.51. Other expenses were wages \$590.10; lighting and heating \$684.36; printing and stationery \$443.38; repairs and renewals, laundry, etc., \$980.73. The sales amounted to \$20,436.92.

Naval and Military Fund.
The income and expenditure account for the ten months of the Naval and Military Fund shows an excess of expenditure over income of \$3,830.61.

The items of expenditure were: Loss on the Hong Kong branch (\$1,009.65) and Kowloon branch (\$697.44), as shown above, making \$1,707.09 for the two establishments; a contribution of \$2,362.81 to the entertainment sub-committee, including Xmas entertainment and contributions of \$215.40 to the bathing sub-committee—a total of \$4,069.90.

The income was represented by bank interest \$272.08 and a donation of \$150.00 towards the Xmas entertainment.

The balance sheet of the Naval and Military Fund at December 31st showed that there was \$6,000 on fixed deposit and \$273.68 cash in hand. There was also \$2,635.21 in current account, but as sundry creditors were due to receive \$2,324.43 this amount has now probably disappeared.

The details of the balance sheet are:

Liabilities.	
Donations for Radio fund, \$1,500, less \$329.31 expenditure to date	\$1,170.69
Sundry creditors	2,324.43
	\$18,895.42

Assets.	
Furniture, fittings, crockery, etc.	\$ 5,647.06
Stocks on hand	479.83
Cash	273.68
Fixed deposit \$6,000.00	
Current a/c 2,635.21	
On hand 273.68	
	8,906.89
Excess of expenditure over income as shown above	3,830.61
	\$18,895.42

Messrs. Thomson & Co., the auditors, state that no provision has been made for depreciation of furniture, fittings, crockery and sundry equipment.

HIS LORDSHIP'S COMMENTS.

His Lordship began his summing up at 11.15, and concluded it at 11.35. After reviewing the evidence of the witnesses of the Crown, the Judge remarked that there was one man who knew the exact story of the affair, and that was the prisoner. He had not been put into the witness-box, the defence having exercised the discretion they had a right to in the matter. There had been no evidence on the part of the defence to rebut any suggestion that the police story was "all made up," or that there had been a collusion of witnesses to get the prisoner into trouble, or that prisoner was not the man each constable had given chase to.

The jury retired at 11.55, and returned at noon. They returned a unanimous verdict of "guilty."

THE SENTENCE.

After informing prisoner, through an interpreter, that he had been found "guilty" of murdering the Chinese police searcher, His Lordship said: "You have had a very serious hearing and your Counsel has urged on your behalf all that could be said. The jury are satisfied, and I agree with their verdict, that you are guilty of the offence which has been alleged against you."

His Lordship then donned the black cap, and passed sentence of death. Prisoner was entirely unmoved but as he was led from the dock he shouted in Chinese as stated above.

ANOTHER CASE ON MONDAY.

Another Chinese, alleged to be one of the band of "gunners" who participated in the shooting raffray on December 7th, is to be charged on Monday morning, before the Chief Justice, with robbery, intent to shoot, and unlawful possession of arms, etc.

CHINA EXHIBITION.

AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH
HALL AND GROUNDS.

CULTURE AND CRAFTSMAN-
SHIP OF THE CHINESE.

It is proposed to hold a "China" Exhibition in St. Andrew's Church Hall and grounds on March 28th, 29th and 30th.

Its aim is to bring together within the compass of a comparatively small area as varied an assortment as possible of Chinese art and manufactures, and methods of manufacture, and to illustrate different departments of Chinese life by means of tableaux scenes and lectures. It is thought that this Exhibition will give many European residents and others in the Colony, an opportunity of acquiring knowledge about the culture and craftsmanship of the Chinese, and will perhaps also enable them to meet a number of Chinese ladies and gentlemen who will be assisting in the undertaking. Such an experience will doubtless be especially appreciated by those who spend only a few years in Hong Kong or China, and whose only acquaintance with the Chinese people has probably been confined to their own domestic life.

It is not the principal aim to derive from the Exhibition any great financial gain, but any profit that is made will be allocated by the Church Missionary Association, for the furtherance of existing Educational and Medical work among the Chinese.

THE EXHIBITION.

The exhibition will probably be arranged on the following plan:— EXHIBITION—1, Curios; 2, Chinese art, pictures; 3, inventions; 4, manufactures, silks, embroidery, etc.

PROCESSES OR MANUFACTURE—1, silk making; 2, Chinese carpentry; 3, bamboo scaffolding; 4, fire crackers, joss sticks, mudguts sticks; 5, drawing scrolls; 6, wax figures. STALLS (sale)—1, house articles; 2, porcelain and crockery; 3, lacquer ware; 4, brass ware; 5, China tea, preserves, eatables generally; 6, musical instruments, tobacco pipes, opium pipes; 7, curios, ivory, silver, etc.

TABLEAUX AND SCENES—1, ancient costumes; 2, Chinese home; 3, mandarin's court; 4, ceremonies on a wedding; 5, funeral ceremonies, Ching Ming, etc.; 6, hospital scene; 7, old time literary examinations. ENTERTAINMENTS—1, short lectures on tableaux; 2, concert by Chinese artists; 3, lecture on the peculiarities of the Chinese language; 4, performance of members of the Ching Wo Boxing Club; 5, conjuring, marionette show. REFRESHMENTS—Chinese restaurant, tea—English and Chinese style.

It is proposed to use the Church Hall for exhibiting curios, works of art, etc., and for the tableaux and lectures, and to erect marquees on the tennis court and about the grounds for the stalls. Many promises of support have already been received.

FAR EAST MARKETS.

AMERICA LOOKS FOR
STRUGGLE FOR
SUPREMACY.

Industrialists and economists see in the war between the Standard Oil Company of New York and Royal Dutch Shell the beginning of what may be a struggle for commercial supremacy in the Far East and for its vast wealth.

As a year, says a Washington message to the London Morning Post, the United States sold oil in the Far East worth more than \$30,000,000. Oil is only a single item in the export trade. The purchasing power of the Far East is constantly increasing, with the Americans constantly enlarging their trade. In this connection the prediction made a short time ago by Doctor Julius Klein, Director of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce of the Department of Commerce is not without significance. He made the following statement:—

"Competition in all of the trade areas of the Far East has been keen in the past and will be even keener in the future. Fortunately for us, perhaps, the purchasing power of the Orient has increased so rapidly that our gains in commerce have been only to a moderate degree at the expense of our competitors, but the time is coming when we will have a real struggle on our hands at the present rate of progress is continued."

Among the chief acquisitions made by the Trustees of the British Museum during the past month and approved by the Standing Committee is a gift from Mr. H. J. Oppenheim of a specimen of Chinese pottery of the Han Dynasty, representing a watchdog with open jaws and uplifted head, as if barking. A large Japanese colour print in three sections, representing a boating party, by Choki, has been given by Mr. O. G. Guillemain. Another print, "Boating at Night," by Shunran, and a number of Japanese illustrated books have been presented by Sir Herbert Thompson.



Here they are!

The New Orthophonic
Victor Dance Records
for February
Hear them this week

This month's release of Victor Dance Records is exceptionally good. Capricious new fox-trot melodies that make dancing the natural thing to do. Smooth waltz-rhythms that drift along like a canoe on moonlit waters.

Drop in and hear them some time this week. Hear them played on the Orthophonic Victrola. Get the ones you like best, so that you will have them on hand for the next dance at your home. Come in—today!

Bungalow of Dreams—Fox Trot With Vocal Refrain

I'm Walkin' On Air—Fox Trot With Vocal Refrain
FRANKIE MASTERS AND HIS ORCHESTRA
No. 21102, 10-inch

Girl of My Dreams, I Love You—Waltz With Vocal Chorus
Sugar Babe, I'm Leavin'—Fox Trot With Vocal Chorus
BLUET STABLE AND HIS ORCHESTRA
No. 20971, 10-inch

Thorn Swell—Fox Trot (from A Connecticut Yankee)

With Vocal Chorus
My One and Only—Fox Trot (from Funny Face)
With Vocal Chorus
JOHNNY JOHNSON AND HIS STAYLEY PENNSYLVANIANS
No. 21113, 10-inch

Down—Fox Trot (from Golden Dawn) With Vocal Refrain

We Two—Fox Trot (from Golden Dawn) With Vocal Refrain
THE THOURAUCURS
No. 21097, 10-inch

Moten Stomp BENNY MOTEN'S KANSAS CITY ORCHESTRA

Blue Guitar Stomp CLIFFORD HAYES' LOUISVILLE STOMPERS
No. 20955, 10-inch

Lovely Lady—Fox Trot (from Lovely Lady) With Vocal Chorus

Make Believe You're Happy—Fox Trot (from Lovely Lady)
With Vocal Chorus
JOHNNY JOHNSON AND HIS STAYLEY PENNSYLVANIANS
No. 21101, 10-inch

Hawaiian Nights—Waltz

Aloma (from Aloma) HILLO HAWAIIAN ORCHESTRA
No. 21110, 10-inch

S. MOUTRIE & Co., LTD.,

Victor Distributors.

LANCASHIRE MARKET IN CHINA.

BIG DROP ON FOREIGN
COMPETITION.

The annual report of the China and Far East section of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce records that the exports of piece goods to China were 717,000,000 linear yards in 1913, 233,000,000 square yards in 1924, but had dwindled to 94,000,000 square yards in the first eleven months of 1927. Yarn exports totalling 2,146,400 lbs. and valued at £109,556 in 1913 had dropped to 1,163,800 lbs. with a value of £187,228 in 1927. For 1927 the figures were 1,727,000 lbs. and £230,114, respectively.

Anxieties in regard to the Chinese position had not been lessened by the events of the past year, as a state of civil war had existed all the time. As far as cotton goods were concerned Great Britain had not obtained a proportionate share even of the reduced volume of business. Japanese exporters and the local Chinese mills had increased the severity of their competition.

During the latter part of the year the Chamber had the opportunity of welcoming Mr. H. H. Fox, British Commercial Counsellor at Peking, who dealt with the important question of treaty revision and also referred to the Chinese trade marks law, which, he thought, was working satisfactorily. Many firms had secured protection for their registered marks. The effective value of this protection would be greater when stability was restored, but recognition had been shown to be the right policy.

The main problem outside of Chinese politics that the executive of the Section had to consider was the ever-increasing competition from other countries. In spite of all China's internal troubles she was undoubtedly doing a very large import trade, of which Britain was not obtaining any share. That difficulty was Lancashire's whole problem. A specially strong committee to study this specific question, comprising spinners, manufacturers and merchants, had come into being during the year, and it was hoped by some form of combined effort to stem the tide flowing against them.

The officers of the Section were re-elected as follows:—Chairman, Mr. W. M. Reekie; vice-chairman, Sir K. D. Stewart; honorary secretary, Mr. F. A. Lander.

HONG KONG SHARE MARKET.

RACES INTERFERE WITH
BUSINESS.

SMALL TURNOVER BUT
PRICES STEADY.

Messrs. Benjamin & Potts in their weekly report on the share market, dated yesterday, state:— The interval which has elapsed since our last report of the 10th instant has been mostly occupied by the annual races, and business has been practically neglected. Although the turnover has been small, prices for the most part have kept fairly steady, and in the case of investment stocks the market has been distinctly firm.

Hong Kong & Shanghai Banks have again strengthened and after sales at \$1,250 have buyers at \$1,280. The London quotation is unchanged at \$131.10 (middle). Unions have been ruling firm and deals were made up to \$312. Cansons have buyers at \$275 after transactions at this rate. Hong Kong Fires have changed hands at the improved price of \$880.

Douglas Steamships were marked higher at \$43. Steamboats are in demand at \$47. Preferred Indos are sought for at \$261. Waterboats can be placed at \$174. Kowloon Wharves are easier and were dealt in at \$132, but close with buyers at \$128. Whampoa Dockers have advanced to \$483. China Providents are required for at \$5.85.

Hong Kong & Shanghai Hotels have recovered to a buying rate of \$84. Hong Kong Lands were negotiated at \$64/65, closing with buyers at the former rate. Humphreys Estate are wanted at \$142. Realty are unchanged at \$8.80. Hong Kong Trams were done at \$284. Star Ferries have remained steady at \$23, or the dividend of \$34 just paid.

China Lights (Combined) have declined to \$164. Hong Kong Electric after having dropped to \$70, have recovered again and there are buyers at \$73. Green Island Cements (Combined) ended lower at \$10.70, a fair quantity having been sold at this price. Hong Kong Ropes (Old) were booked at \$9.60. The new shares have appreciated to \$44.

Dairy Farms were done at \$191. Watsons touched \$12.30. Amusements have firmed up to \$29. There are buyers of Envo at \$15.74. Orientals at \$15.2 and Shanghai Cottons (Old) at \$14.48.

THE "WILL TO PEACE."

CANTON AND THE MILITARISTS.

FRIENDSHIP WITH FOREIGNERS DESIRED.

INSURANCE POLICIES AND THE FIRES OF DEC. 11th.

(FROM OUR CHINESE CORRESPONDENT.)

The "will to peace" is gathering strength in Canton. That many consider the best news they have heard for some time is that Chiang Kai Shek has finally called off Chang Fat Fui and his "iron sides" from the northern border of Kwangtung and intends to employ them on the Northern expedition. The news has not yet been confirmed and a good many people speak of it as too good to be true.

This intense desire for peace makes the hatred for the "Reds" bitter and savage. The Communist receives summary justice and this desire of the community is being exploited to further the removal of personal enemies by denouncing them as extremists.

The forthcoming visit of Sir Miles Lampson is being looked forward to as an opportunity for a rapprochement with Britain. It is also hoped that Sir Cecil Clementi, whose love of China and deep knowledge of her culture are known and appreciated, will also be seen in the Southern Capital before long.

Mr. Chu Chao Hsin, former Chinese Charge d'Affaires in London, is at present in charge of the Canton Foreign Office, and he knows both Sir Miles and Sir Cecil personally. The Nanking Administration are asking Mr. Chu to become their Vice-Minister, but the Canton Authorities are most anxious to retain his services. He is popular both among the native and the foreign officials and it is felt that no one would do his work so well.

General Chen Tsai Tang, for a time Garrison Commissioner at Swatow, is now in Canton.

The latest reports from Swatow state that 70 alleged "Reds" were arrested recently and that some 21 have been executed.

The German Consulate in Canton have officially declared that the German Government have had nothing to do with the arms conveyed to China by the Norwegian s.s. *Skulte*.

Damage to the locomotives of trains proceeding westward from Shikung caused a stoppage on the Canton-Kowloon Railway on Thursday morning. The morning express from Kowloon was delayed, and some anxiety was felt in Canton.

The Associated Chambers of Commerce of Kwangtung are offering to form a mutual insurance company which will issue policies covering damages caused by war and riots. At present the regular insurance companies do not cover this form of damage.

Merchants in Canton and other cities of the Province have suffered two great fires of recent years, and insurance companies have refused to pay for the damage, alleging both conflagrations to have been due to acts of war. It may be recalled that the lawless elements of Canton destroyed part of the Western City on October 15th, 1925.

The policy holders in Canton have appointed a committee to look after their claims in connection with the recent "Red" upheaval, but it is most unlikely that they will be able to obtain anything from either Chinese or foreign insurance companies.

SIR MILES LAMPSON.

BRITISH MINISTER ARRIVING TO-DAY.

OFFICIAL LANDING AND RECEPTION.

THE PROGRAMME OF HIS VISIT.

Sir Miles W. Lampson, K.C.M.G., C.B., M.V.O., the British Minister at Peking, will arrive this morning in H.M.S. *Kangaroo*.

The warship is expected at 11 a.m., and there will be an official landing at Queen's Pier about 11.15. H.E. the Governor of Hong Kong (Sir Cecil Clementi, K.C.M.G.), will receive the British Minister, whose visit is in the nature of a return of that paid by Sir Cecil recently at Peking.

A guard of honour, from the King's Own Scottish Borderers, who will be accompanied by the full band, pipes and drummers of the battalion, will parade opposite Queen's Pier, and will be inspected by Sir Miles Lampson and H.E. the Governor of Hong Kong.

H.E. the Governor will be accompanied by his A.D.C., and members of the Council, and other officials will also be present.

Sir Miles Lampson and Sir Cecil Clementi will then proceed to Government House.

In the afternoon a tour of the New Territories will be made.

On Monday, Sir Miles Lampson and party lunch with H.E. Major-General C. C. Lunard, C.B., C.M.G. (G.O.C. South China Command), and on Monday night there will be dinner party at Government House.

On Tuesday, Sir Miles Lampson and party lunch with Mr. W. W. Hornell, C.I.E. (Vice-Chancellor of the Hong Kong University), and that evening, as far as is at present known, the British Minister will dine with the Commander-in-Chief of the China Station (Vice-Admiral Sir Reginald Y. Tyrwhitt, K.C.B., D.S.O., D.C.L.), on board H.M.S. *Hawkins*.

Visiting Macao.

On Wednesday morning, at eight o'clock, Sir Miles Lampson and party proceed on H.M.S. *Taranula* to Macao, the invitation extended by Senhor Tamagnini de Sousa Barbosa, Governor of the Portuguese Colony, having been accepted. Macao will be reached about noon, and the British Minister and his party will be the guests of the Governor of Macao.

This is the first occasion on which Macao is to receive such a visit, and though late in the 18th century Lord Macartney and early in the 19th century Lord Amherst, acting respectively as plenipotentiaries for Britain en route to Peking, stayed at Macao, it is over a hundred years since a visit of this importance has been made to Macao.

To Canton.

On Thursday morning the British Minister and his party leave for Canton, where they will remain until the morning of Tuesday, the 25th.

On that day, Sir Miles Lampson returns to Hong Kong, and in the evening he will be the guest of honour at a dinner to be given at the Chinese Merchants' Club, China Building by the Hon. Sir Shou Shou Chow and the Hon. Dr. H. H. Kowall, C.M.G. (the Chinese members on the Legislative Council). H.E. the Governor of Hong Kong will also be present at this function.

Other Arrangements.

On Wednesday, 29th, there will be another tour of the New Territories, and the British Minister will be entertained to lunch at the Royal Hong Kong Golf Club, Fanling.

In the evening there will be a dinner party at Government House.

No arrangements have yet been made with regard to Thursday, March 1st.

On Friday, March 2nd, Sir Miles Lampson and party will leave on the s.s. *Francia*, the round-the-world tourist liner which arrives here the day before, for Shanghai.

Sir Miles Lampson will be accompanied on his visit by Mr. Sterndale Bennett and Mr. Davidson, a former Consul in Ningpo.

The Canton Visit.

In connection with Sir Miles Lampson's visit to Canton, it is interesting to note that officials of the Canton Government are preparing a reception in his honour.

General Li Tsai Hsin received a telegram from the Fukien Government with regard to the British Minister's pending visit, and has now taken steps to prepare for the visit to Canton. A feature of the reception to Sir Miles Lampson will be a big official banquet.

The Recent Visit to Ningpo.

The following is culled from the *North-China Daily News*, Nixoro, Feb. 10th.

The British community in Ningpo had a great honour conferred upon them by the visit of the British Minister, Sir Miles Lampson, who called in on his way south especially to show his personal interest in the affairs of the few British residents in this port.

The Minister, accompanied by Mr. Sterndale Bennett and Mr. Davidson, arrived in Ningpo on Monday, Feb. 10th.

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CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

CANTON MERCHANTS ASK FOR HELP.

THE QUESTION OF INSURANCE CLAIMS.

At the monthly meeting of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce held yesterday, a long petition from merchants in Canton was read, it stated that the merchants had been severely hit by the "Red" upheaval in December last when an enormous amount of property was burnt down. The companies with whom they were insured had refused to compensate them in any way and unless they could recover a portion of their losses from these companies, trade revival in Canton would be impossible.

Several representatives of Chinese insurance companies were present at the meeting, and they were unanimous in refusing to meet any claim arising out of damage done by the "Reds." Their contention was that the fires were due to "war" and that no insurance policy had provided for such contingency.

One representative of the insurance interest said that some of the victims were insured with foreign companies. They also had been unable to obtain compensation and he did not see why Chinese insurance companies should be asked to pay.

It was suggested by one member of the Chamber that if the insurance companies would pay a small portion of the claims it would help to revive trade. If once the merchants in Canton could carry on business again, it would ultimately benefit the insurance companies.

After a lengthy discussion, the Chamber was asked to reply to the merchants' petition saying that the Chamber could not compel the insurance companies to pay and the best course would be for the merchants to negotiate with the insurance companies direct.

Secretary Wishes To Resign.

Mr. Ip Lan Chuen, the Secretary of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce who has held that post for over ten years, tendered his resignation yesterday. He said that he was getting old and the duty was too onerous for him. His resignation was not formally accepted.

Several members saying that Mr. Ip's services were too valuable to lose. He was asked to stay on. Mr. Ip, however, said that it would be better for the Chamber to get another man in his place. The matter is still in abeyance.

Correspondence.

MAKE WAY FOR THE FIRE ENGINE!

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONG KONG DAILY PRESS,"]

SIR.—It is the custom in most places to give a fire engine precedence over other traffic. The clang of a fire engine bell is a signal to all moving traffic to come to an immediate halt until the engine has passed. This also has a moral effect on pedestrians who get on to the pavements as soon as they can. No such rule appears to be in force here and drivers of trams and motor-cars take little or no notice of a fire engine. Indeed I have seen instances of motor-cars actually racing a fire engine.

In the interests of public safety it is time that serious action is taken to give the Fire Brigade, for whom speed is of the utmost importance, a clear passage on our roads, whether they are attending calls or merely carrying out exercises.

It was very fortunate indeed that there were no pedestrians near the scene of the collision between the fire engine and the two tram-cars yesterday. It does not need departmental enquiries or expressions of opinion from inquest juries to bring home the real danger arising from the absence of regulations regarding the progress of fire engines.—Yours, etc.,

COMMON SENSE.

Hong Kong, Feb. 17th, 1928.

Davidson, a former Consul in Ningpo, arrived in H.M.S. *For-glorie* at noon on Tuesday last and was entertained to dinner by Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Gibson.

In the afternoon the Consul and Mrs. Pridemore were at home to all the British residents who were presented to the Minister, and all were given the opportunity of a brief conversation with him.

At night the Minister and his party were entertained to dinner at the Consulate together with the Captain and officers of H.M.S. *For-glorie*. Representative members of the British community including the Rt. Rev. Bishop Molloy and Mrs. Molloy, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Gibson, Commissioner of Customs, Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Ballantine and the Rev. and Mrs. A. A. Conibear, were present and a very successful social evening was enjoyed by all.

The brief visit of the Minister to Ningpo besides being a social event of the first importance has proved a source of inspiration and encouragement to the entire community.

QUEER BORROWINGS.

CHINESE GIVEN BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT.

BRIBERY AND LARCENY CHARGES DISMISSED.

A Chinese, named Lai Fuk Sang, who was alleged to have committed a larceny of \$75, and to have bribed a police constable with \$10, was charged before Mr. Justice J. R. Wood and a jury at the Criminal Sessions in the Second Court yesterday afternoon. He was ultimately discharged, and was then charged with returning from deportation, having been banished from the Colony for life. This case was adjourned until Monday morning, when Mr. H. R. Holmes, the Crown Solicitor, who appeared to prosecute, prisoner being unrepresented, explained that there were three charges against prisoner—the larceny of \$75 on January 8th; offering a bribe of \$10 to a policeman; and bribing a policeman. The two latter charges were of an alternative character.

Outlining the case, Mr. Holmes said that the Fuk Yuen Tung firm carried on business at 15, Wing Lok Street, the first floor being used as business premises, and the upper floor as quarters for the accountant and foks.

The accountant handed to one of the foks the sum of \$75 in notes. The foks placed this money in a locked basket on January 8th, and he knew the money was still there on the following day at 10 p.m.

Prisoner, it was stated, came to the shop, and appeared to be acquainted with one of the partners of the firm. He stayed in the second floor quarters until January 8th. On that day, after the mid-day meal the money went up to his room and found to his consternation that someone had rifled the basket in which he had placed the money. As he was going upstairs before he discovered the loss of the notes, the foks passed, he stated, the prisoner coming downstairs. Immediately he found the money had vanished he suspected the prisoner, and went after him, but he had gone. From that time until January 12th prisoner was not seen. On that date a foks saw and followed prisoner to a tea-house, and afterwards made a report to a police constable, who arrested prisoner.

The prisoner was brought back to the Wing Lok Street shop, and while there it was alleged, prisoner called the constable on to the verandah and gave him \$10 for tea-money, and asked the constable not to arrest him.

When charged with larceny, prisoner said "I did not steal, I only borrowed \$10."

In this connection, Mr. Holmes commented that there was certain evidence that prisoner did borrow \$10 from the accountant of the shop. When charged with bribery, prisoner said "I paid back \$10 to the accountant. I did not give \$10 to the policeman."

When at the Police Court, prisoner said "I did not steal that sum of \$75. I only had a loan of \$10 from the accountant, and after I was arrested I was frightened and went back to the shop to return the \$10 to the accountant. The Chinese constable told me that if I handed the \$10 to him I would be set free. So I handed over this money to the constable for the accountant."

Mr. Holmes commented that it was an obvious defence for prisoner to say that he handed over the \$10 not as a bribe, but in order to repay the loan.

After the case for the prosecution had concluded, prisoner admitted the statements he had made when first charged. He remarked that in a business even the sum of 75 cents was entered in a cash book. Why, he asked, had not the accountant entered the sum of \$75 paid to the foks? Prisoner borrowed, and that back he handed the money to the policeman, the latter said "now I have the \$10 it is bribery, and we can arrest you."

His Lordship's Comments.

During his summing up, His Lordship commented that the basket mentioned in this case had been produced here for the first time. Prisoner declared that he had never seen it until that day, and as far as His Lordship knew the basket was produced in the Magistrate's Court.

Commenting on the charge of bribery, His Lordship said that the constable had stated prisoner gave him \$10. A witness had said prisoner offered to return \$10, and prisoner had stated that he borrowed \$10 and offered to pay it. In conclusion, His Lordship suggested that there was considerable doubt in the case, in respect of all charges.

Without retiring, the jury returned a verdict of "not guilty," and prisoner was "discharged on all counts."

His Lordship said he thought the verdict was quite a right one.

DEPORTED FOR LIFE AND RETURNED.

Prisoner was then charged with returning from deportation, it being stated that he was deported for life in October last year.

Prisoner pleaded "guilty," and said "my 75 years' old mother is ill, and I have set the money to go back."

(Continued on next column.)

LIBEL ACTION AGAINST HONG KONG EDITOR.

L. E. HAYNES AS PLAINTIFF.

COURT MAKES AN ORDER FOR PARTICULARS.

Friday morning is always set aside at the Summary Court for settling the dates for hearing pending cases. Yesterday morning, before Mr. Justice J. R. Wood, a case was mentioned in which Mr. L. E. Haynes sues Mr. G. W. C. Burnett, managing editor of the *China Mail*, for \$1,000 damages for alleged libel.

Mr. A. el Arculli was for defendant and Mr. L. E. Haynes appeared in person.

Mr. Arculli said he objected to the writ as drawn. He referred His Lordship to Order 3, Rule 9 of the White Book under which His Lordship would see that full particulars must be given in an action for libel. No particulars had been given in this case.

His Lordship indicated that he would make an order for particulars.

Mr. Arculli submitted that the writ was bad *ab initio*. His Lordship disagreed.

Mr. Arculli again submitted that under Order 3, Rule 9 it was imperative for particulars to be given. His Lordship said he thought Section 19 of the Summary Jurisdiction Ordinance covered the case.

Mr. Arculli: And Section 14 of the same Ordinance says that full particulars must be given.

His Lordship: I will order particulars and then continue.

Mr. Arculli: With costs?

His Lordship: No. Particulars to be given within one week (addressing Mr. Haynes). "Full particulars must be given in writing."

Mr. Arculli continued that that was no bar to his asking for particulars. He submitted that his client was entitled to costs. Because a person chose to act as a lawyer that was no reason why his client should be embarrassed.

His Lordship: Everyone has a right to appear here and conduct his own proceedings.

Mr. Arculli: Yes, that is true, but certain rules must be observed.

His Lordship: Mr. Haynes is acting just like any other plaintiff. Mr. Arculli indicated that he would ask for pleadings and for particulars.

His Lordship: At present, the matter stands adjourned for one week with an order for particulars against the plaintiff.

TUNG KOON DISTRICT FEUD.

TROUBLE OVER GROUND RENT.

STORY OF TWO RIVAL CLIKES.

The hearing was continued yesterday at the Central Magistracy before Mr. R. E. Lindell of charges against two Tung Koon farmers who were brought on remand under an extradition warrant. They are accused of attempting murder, kidnapping and stealing a bullock in the village of *Song Bo* in the Tung Koon district.

Mr. T. S. Whyte-Smith, Assistant Crown Solicitor appeared for the prosecution and Mr. O. A. S. Russ conducted the case for the defence.

The first fugitive, in the witness box, said that he and his father were farmers in Tung Koon. He came down to Hong Kong on April last to work as a coolie.

He was living peacefully in his village home until Un Heun Sau became the chief of the People's Volunteers' Brigade. The new chief demanded from the villagers \$5 rent for every acre of land. Hitherto the rental had been only 5 measures of rice.

Witness had five acres and his brother also had some land. They both refused to comply with the new demands, and his brother was shot dead by Un Heun Sau, the said village chief.

In this out-of-way village of Tung Koon, where lived nine hundred souls, they were divided into two cliques.

The fugitive's clique were only 300 strong, the rest being on the side of the chief. There was no armed robbery in the village, and the fugitive said that he had never kidnapped anyone, nor had he ever stolen anything. He complained that the new chief had set fire to his house and attacked those who had refused to pay the new levy.

The other fugitive's story was the same.

The case was again adjourned until next Friday.

Asked what record the prisoner had, Mr. Holmes replied that the man was sentenced to two months' hard labour in October last year for a similar offence to that mentioned in the first charge that afternoon, namely larceny from a dwelling house.

Asked if this was correct, prisoner said: "Yes, I did steal it from a Swatow man. It was not stealing exactly. That money was remitted to me for another man, and I spent that money, and he sued me for stealing."

His Lordship announced that he would give decision in this case on Monday morning, and accordingly remanded in custody until then.

At the prisoner's request, His Lordship said that the \$10 mentioned in the bribery charge would be refunded to him.

Wm. POWELL, Ltd.

CARPET DEPT.



SUPERIOR QUALITY 'AXMINSTER' HEARTH & SOFA RUGS

SIZE	PRICE
2' 3" x 4' 6"	\$12.50
3' 0" x 6' 0"	\$29.50
4' 0" x 6' 3"	\$34.50

HEAVY QUALITY SEAMLESS AXMINSTER SQUARES

SIZE	PRICE
9' x 9'	\$115.00
9' x 12'	\$150.00
10' x 13'	\$195.00
12' x 15'	\$250.00

WONDERFUL VALUE.

SOME RECORDS WE RECOMMEND.



OLD SCOTTISH PSALM TUNES.

- 4516 (STRACATHRO (Old 184th)) ... ORGAN
- (CRIMOND, COVENANTERS, FRENCH DO.
- INVOCATION: ST. GEORGES, ... Do.
- 4717 (LONDON NEW, MARTYRS, ... Do.
- ST. PAUL, ... Do.
- 4519 (BALLEEMA (40th PSALM) WESTBOURN CHORIS
- (KILMARNOCK, (103rd PSALM) ... Do.
- (ORLINGTON (23rd PSALM) ... Do.
- 4520 (NOW ISRAEL MAY SAY, ... Do.
- (124th PSALM) ... Do.

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THANK GOODNESS I AM INSURED!

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11, CANNON ROAD (3rd Floor) [L.A.]

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

LECTURE.

MR. R. VAUGHAN-FOWLER will give an Address in the THEATRE ROYAL on TUESDAY, 21st FEBRUARY, 1928, at 4 p.m., under the auspices of the HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, on

"THE PROSPECTS OF COMMERCIAL AVIATION IN THE FAR EAST"

Members of the Public are cordially invited to attend.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OFFICE.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Steam Launch "HONG FAT" now lying unclaimed at the Police Wharf, ADMIRAL, will be disposed of by the Undersecretary of the Customs and Excise on MARCH 1st NEXT. Any Person claiming the Steam Launch will be required to present his Claim in Person to the Undersecretary with the necessary proof of Ownership. G. R. BAYER, Supt. of Imports and Exports, Hong Kong, 18th Feb., 1928. [5393]

NOTICE.

THE EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE KOWLOON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION will be held in the ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH HALL, KOWLOON, on MONDAY, the 20th FEBRUARY, 1928, at 8 p.m.

By Order.

Adoption of Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st DECEMBER, 1927. Election of Officers and Committee. Any other Business.

It is earnestly requested that Members and all others interested in the welfare of Kowloon will make an endeavour to be present at the Meeting.

C. M. MANNERS, Hon. Secretary. [5399]

QUEEN'S COLLEGE OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Association will take place on FRIDAY, the 24th FEBRUARY, 1928, at 5.30 p.m., in the HALL of QUEEN'S COLLEGE. By Order of the General Committee, C. G. ANDERSON, Hon. Secretary. Hong Kong, 17th Feb., 1928. [5390]

THE BANK OF EAST ASIA, LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the NINTH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Registered Office of the Company, No. 10, DES VOGES ROAD CENTRAL, on SATURDAY, the 18th FEBRUARY, 1928, at 3.30 p.m., for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the Directors for the Year ending 31st DECEMBER, 1927. The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from SATURDAY, 11th FEBRUARY to SATURDAY, 18th FEBRUARY, 1928 (Both Days inclusive), during which period No Transfer of Shares can be registered. By Order of the Board of Directors, KAN TONG PO, Chief Manager. Hong Kong, 3rd Feb., 1928. [5394]

HONG KONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS in this Corporation will be held at City Hall, Hong Kong, on SATURDAY, the 24th FEBRUARY, 1928, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Court of Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the Year ending 31st DECEMBER, 1927. The REGISTER OF SHARES of the Corporation will be CLOSED from MONDAY, the 13th FEBRUARY, to SATURDAY, the 24th FEBRUARY, 1928 (Both Days inclusive), during which period No Transfer of Shares can be registered. By Order of the Court of Directors, A. C. HYNES, Chief Manager. Hong Kong, 6th Feb., 1928. [5355]

THE HONG KONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS of the Company will be held at the Office of the Company, No. 4A, DES VOGES ROAD, on TUESDAY, 28th FEBRUARY, 1928, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving a Report of the Directors, together with a Statement of Accounts, and electing Directors and Auditors. The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from WEDNESDAY, 15th FEBRUARY, to TUESDAY, 28th FEBRUARY, 1928, Both Days inclusive, during which period No Transfer of Shares can be registered. By Order of the Board of Directors, JOHN ARNOLD, Secretary. Hong Kong, 4th Feb., 1928. [5354]

INTIMATIONS.

HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.

RACE MEETING, 1928.

18th FEBRUARY.

The First Race on will be run at 12 O'clock Noon. The First Ball will be rung at 11.30 A.M.

MEMBERS' BADGES.

MEMBERS' BADGES of Admission are now ready and may be obtained by those Members who have not already received them from Messrs. LYNSTRAD & DAVIS, Alexandra Buildings. Members are reminded that these Badges will also admit them to all the Extra Race Meetings of this year.

MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE.

Members have the privilege of introducing Two Non-members to the Members' Enclosure.

A Limited Number of Tickets are available and may be obtained from Messrs. LYNSTRAD & DAVIS, Alexandra Buildings, on or before SATURDAY, 11th FEBRUARY, 1928, at a Cost of \$10 Each Per Day or \$30 for the Meeting. The Charge for Admission for Ladies to the Members' Enclosure will be \$4 Per Day. Each Member can obtain upon application to the Secretary, Badges for the Admission of Two Ladies Free of Charge. On no pretext will Children be permitted in either Enclosure during the First Three Days Racing.

PUBIC ENCLOSURE.

Tickets of Admission to the Public Enclosure, Price: \$3 Per Day for all Persons including Ladies, may be purchased from Messrs. KELLER & WALSH, Ltd., or at the Gate. Soldiers and Sailors in uniform admitted to the Public Enclosure at \$1 Per Day.

Admission by Ticket only.

Bookmakers, Tic. Tao Men, etc., will not be permitted to operate within the Precincts of the Hong Kong Jockey Club during the Race Meeting.

SERVANTS' PASSES.

Passes for Servants will be issued on application to Messrs. LYNSTRAD & DAVIS, Alexandra Buildings. Employers are requested to distribute them with discrimination, and to endorse their Names on the Passes. Servants are not permitted in the Members' Enclosure except for passing through on their duties, but must remain in their employers' hands. Any Persons found loitering about with Servants' Passes in their possession will forfeit the same and will be removed from the Enclosure.

By Order.

C. B. BROWN, Secretary. [5388]

HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.

DRAFT Programmes and Entry Forms for the FIRST EXTRA RACE MEETING to be held on SATURDAY, 24th FEBRUARY, 1928, will be held on SATURDAY, 24th FEBRUARY, 1928, at 12 O'CLOCK NOON on MONDAY, 20th FEBRUARY, 1928. [5389]

MACAO RACE CLUB.

DRAFT Programmes and Entry Forms of the SIXTH EXTRA RACE MEETING to be held on SUNDAY, 4th MARCH, 1928, can be obtained upon application to THE INTERNATIONAL RACE and RECREATION CLUBS OF MACAO, LTD., HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB and CAUSEWAY BAY STABLES, HONG KONG.

Entries will CLOSE on FRIDAY, 24th FEBRUARY, 1928, at 3 p.m. [5384]

FANLING HUNT STEEPLE-CHASE.

SPRING MEETING.

SATURDAY, 3rd MARCH, 1928.

ENTRY Forms to be Returned to

DR. F. PIERCE GROVE, ALEXANDRA BUILDING, BEFORE NOON, MONDAY, 20th FEBRUARY. [5381]

"THE SAN-FAN" CIRCUS.

"SAN-FAN" CIRCUS, having

returned from AMERICA, are giving SHOWS at the PRAYA EAST RECREATION AREA.

Expert European Bandmen and Dancing Girls have been employed.

PRICES:

1st Class \$1.00

2nd \$0.60

GALLERY SEATS \$0.30

TIME TABLE.

NIGHTLY SHOWS

8.00 P.M. to 11.00 P.M.

MATINEES

2.00 P.M. to 5.00 P.M.

Every Saturday and Sunday, and other General Holidays. [5790]

INTIMATIONS.

ROYAL HONG KONG YACHT CLUB.

RACING YACHTS

"Y" CLASS.

MEMBERS are informed that the FIRST RACE of the "MATCH BOX" Series for "Y" CLASS YACHTS will take place on SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18th. Preparatory Gun: 2.40 P.M. Start: 2.45 P.M. from Club Line. By Order, J. R. L. STANTON, Hon. Secretary, Sailing Committee. [5385]

KOWLOON BOWLING GREEN CLUB.

CLOSING DAY.

THE CLOSING DAY and DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES, will take place on SATURDAY FIRST, 18th FEBRUARY, at 3 P.M.

A. CHAPMAN, Hon. Secretary. [5390]

"A REAL HOME SCHOOL."

COUNTRY Life, Elevated Sunny Position, Good Food and Every Comfort. Health Particularly Considered. The Sole Charge of a Few Boys from abroad Age 7-10 Undertaken by Mr. KEMPSTER & SISTER, VERNON HOUSE, LILIANSTRAIT, MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

HONG KONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Certificate No. 5/NS 4923 dated Hong Kong, 2nd October, 1917, for One Share of this Bank Numbered 64089 in the Name of Mr. LO KWONG CHUN has been LOST or STOLEN, and should this Certificate not be produced to the Bank before the 18th MARCH, 1928, a New Certificate for the Share will be issued, and the aforesaid Certificate No. 5/NS 4923 will be thereafter treated by this Corporation as NULL and VOID. By Order of the Court of Directors, A. C. HYNES, Chief Manager. Hong Kong, 11th Feb., 1928. [5380]

NOTICE.

MONIES up to \$200,000 are Available for Investment on 1st-Class Mortgage Security subject to a Trustee Valuation. Apply—Messrs. DEACONS, Princes' Buildings. [5791]

TO LET.

FROM 1st MAY for 6 Months "KIEK-UT" STUBBS ROAD, Eight Rooms, Fully Furnished and Garage. Monthly Rent: H\$300. Use of Car may be arranged.—Apply Box 5837, c/o Hong Kong Daily Press. [5387]

TO LET.

A FLAT in HUNTER'S BUILDINGS, KOWLOON.—Apply to HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., LTD., ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS. [5617]

THE NETHERLANDS HARBOR WORKS CO., MACAO.

FOR SALE

The Damaged MUDRIDGE NHW. 36, Dimensions: approx. 13' x 23' x 9'. Lying on the Beach at Macao-Siac for Inspection. Written Offers to be made before the 28th FEBRUARY, 1928. [5382]

DO YOU WANT BETTER HEALTH? SIMPLE WAY—No

long waiting for Bursitis—Catarrh, Malaria, Rheumatism, Nervosities, Indigestion, Constipation, Cough, Asthma, Bronchitis, Dropsy.—POO ON HEEB Co. (Yee Foo Loo, Chinese Herbalist, 25 years' experience in America), 92A, Queen's Road Central (1st floor), Entrance 68; Queen's Road Central.—Hours: Daily 9 a.m. to 12 noon, 1.30 p.m. to 5 p.m. (Sundays 10 to 3).

POCKET CALCULATOR which

Adds, Subtracts, Multiplies Accurately like Big Machines and Counts up to 999,999,999. It is Useful, Convenient and Inexpensive; it does the Entire Work Satisfactorily, Rapidly and Accurately. \$18 Post Free. D. H. WARDEN, GARDEN, BOMBAY. [5690]

PREPAID "WANTED" ADVERTISEMENTS.

APARTMENTS TO LET—

SAVAIN HOUSE, 15, HAWKINS ROAD, KOWLOON. Large Rooms with lockwood Venetians. Well Furnished. Separate Bath. Modern Sanitation. Moderate Terms. Excellent Cuisine. Phone K. 1423. [5309]

INTIMATIONS.

FINE SHERRIES.

SUPERIOR PALE

DRY.

FULL GOLDEN.

of very superior quality;

grown and bottled by

Anto. R. Ruiz Y. Hermanos,

Xeres de la Frontera,

specially selected.

FINE PORTS

ROBERTSON'S

Douro

Choice Old

SILVA & COSEN'S

Very Fine Old Tawny.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

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London Office: 21, Bride Lane, Fleet Street, E.C. 4

The Daily Press.

HONG KONG, FEBRUARY 18th, 1928.

THE CENSORSHIP OF FILMS.

Most of us will have a good deal of sympathy with the producers of the British film "Dawn," which embodies the story of the life and death of EDITH CAVELL. Following the private view of the film in London the German Ambassador entered a protest against its exhibition, as likely to re-awaken war time bitterness and to retard the growth of confidence and goodwill between the two nations. On the strength of reading some of the press notices of the film Sir AUGUST CHAMBERLAIN endorsed the German Ambassador's view, but had to confess that the Government had no power to stop the film being shown. He appealed, however, to the producers not to release it. It would certainly have been very much better if these distinguished personages had refrained from interference at this late hour. It is a most unfortunate subject to drag into the limelight of controversy. Everyone knows that the tragic death of Miss EDITH CAVELL was the work of a militarist system that has been crushed and discarded, the men actually responsible being now dead or in exile. The wisdom of the producers in choosing such a theme is, of course, equally open to question. But there is no concealment about it. The film was not created, like a Wessex novel, in the depth of the country by a solitary artist working alone. The project was known long before the cameras

started work; and the whole production has taken place amid the usual publicity. The early stages, before money and labour had been expended by the struggling British film industry, were the proper time for objections and protests. It is a diplomat's duty to foresee difficulties and to seek to remove them before they grow to formidable dimensions. He is expected to work more by personal influence and unofficial representations than by public remonstrance. The Foreign Office cannot be absolved from blame for its delay. The British Government has taken official cognisance of the cinematograph industry, the Film Quota Act and the facilities offered by the Admiralty and War Office being the expression of an alert and active realization of its great economic and still greater psychological importance. No doubt a word in season from the Foreign Office would have been sufficient for the producers in question to abandon this particular picture. Now that it is completed we hope that the protests will be ignored and the film submitted to the judgment of the public. If it contains elements of the nature feared by Sir AUGUST and the German Ambassador we do not believe it will succeed. But if, as it has been claimed, it presents one of the most moving episodes of the war in a spirit which the central figure, who coined the great phrase "patriotism is not enough," would himself approve, then it will achieve popular commendation and even further the cause of world peace.

The episode raises the question of film censorship. At present board presided over by Mr. T. P. O'CONNOR and set up by the British Film Industry itself views every picture before release. But there is no official censorship. Nor is there any need of one in England. The effect of censorship upon the stage has been pernicious and it has not achieved its object. As Mr. BERNARD SHAW has pointed out, the police and law courts are the proper protectors of the public from unsuitable public performances. There are laws against indecency, sedition and blasphemy that can be quickly set in operation. The civil courts shield living persons from pillory and abuse.

An official censorship is generally ill-advised in its prohibitions. Too many powerful interests are able to "make representations." Under the restrictions it might impose the British film industry would be smothered in infancy and the field left clear for Hollywood. But an indirect censorship of stage or screen by supposedly aggrieved nationalities, organisations and individuals would be even worse, and once allowed to start it would be impossible to stop. "The King of Kings" depicting the life of Christ was, on one occasion, altered to avoid offending Jewish susceptibilities. If this goes on Shylock will have to be translated into "a Babylonian usurer" and Falstaff removed altogether as a cruel and gross libel on knighthood and the British Army.

INSURING AGAINST PIRATES.

Lloyd's underwriters have recently issued a policy to cover the risk of capture by pirates or brigands in the case of a military officer and his wife who are about to visit China. The insurance is for a substantial amount, and the policy provides that if either of the assured persons is captured the underwriters will pay whatever ransom is arranged up to the limit of the policy. No restrictions are imposed except that no ransom will be paid if capture takes place above Hankow. If a claim is made, however, the assured persons agree to subordinate their rights of recovery to the underwriters, who would then have a claim against the Chinese authorities in respect of the loss they had suffered. It is said that the rate of this insurance is moderate, but the market for such risks is not large.

The 9th ordinary meeting of the Bank of East Asia will be held this afternoon, at 3.30.

Mrs. Edith Grace Norris, who died at Reading on January 11th, in her 92nd year, was the mother of the Bishop of North China.

The 8th annual general meeting of Queen's College Old Boys' Association will be held on Friday, February 24th, in Queen's College Hall, at 5.30 p.m.

The late Mr. Gerahm Whitfield Guinness, M.B. (58), of the China Inland Mission, Newington Green, N., for 30 years a medical missionary, left £1,334.

Home papers of January 19th reported that Lady Lugard was lying ill at her home, Little Parkhurst, Abinger Common, Surrey, suffering from bronchitis and lung trouble and other complications following influenza.

The choir of St. Andrew's Church held a social last night in the Church Hall which was very well attended. The programme included musical items, games, and dancing which were all very much enjoyed. Refreshments were served during the interval.

The engagement is announced of Miss Muir Newson, elder daughter of Sir Percy and Lady Newson, and the Master of Napier, who is a lieutenant in the King's Own Scottish Borderers, now in China. He is the eldest son of Lord Napier and Ettrick and is 27.

The 8th annual general meeting of the Kowloon Residents' Association, is to be held on Monday next at St. Andrew's Church Hall, Kowloon, at 6 p.m. The meeting will be asked to adopt the report and accounts for last year, and to elect officers and committee for the ensuing year.

"In 1910," writes "Saepius," in a Home paper "I bought a watch at Weltervreden, Java. The first time it wanted attention was in 1926, when I took it into a shop in Holborn and was served by the same assistant who had sold me the watch in Java 16 years earlier."

Cheung Tak, who is on probation as a police interpreter, was charged before Major C. Willson at the Central Magistracy yesterday with misconducting himself in that he was alleged to have received \$50 from one Wong Ka Yan to protect the latter from an impending summons. The case was fixed for hearing on Wednesday afternoon, bail being fixed at \$500.

Commander G. B. Hartford, D.S.O., is shortly proceeding to England. A group photograph of the Police Reserve, of which he is adjutant, will be taken on Tuesday at the Central Police Station. Commander Hartford has invited members of the Sharpshooters' Co. to tea at the Savoy Hotel on February 27th at 5 p.m.

A Chinese woman reported to the police on Thursday that she had lost a bundle containing \$190 in Kwangtung coins. She stated that this was part of the money she obtained at a money changer's shop opposite the Central Market. While she was engaged in counting the remainder of the money on the pavement the bundle disappeared.

Forthcoming weddings announced include the following:—Mr. Albert Edward Kew, merchant, residing at 7A, Macdonnell Road, and Miss Nancy Joyce Ho, residing at "The Armitage," 43, Kennedy Road; Mr. Frederick Charles Stevens, Customs Officer, o/o The Chinese Maritime Customs Office, and Miss Wan Hau Yin, residing at No. 511, Nathan Road, Kowloon.

Nee Nang Sso, aged 29, a seaman, of the steamer Gleneg, was ordered at East Ham Police Court on January 17th to pay £5.5s. for illegally harbouring and concealing on board 2½ lbs. of silk tissue and seven silk handkerchiefs. Sso said that he bought the silk at Yokohama at 2s. a yard, and that it would be worth anything from 10s. to 14s. a yard in England.

Booking is now open at Moutrie's and the Star Theatre for the musical recital to be given by Robert and Anatole Kitain, the talented violinist and pianist, in the Star Theatre at 8.15 p.m. on Thursday, February 23rd. Admission is at the popular prices of \$3, \$2 and \$1. A very pleasant evening is assured as both young men possess ability to a marked degree, and the programme is one that cannot fail to charm.

ST. PETER'S YOUNG MEN'S CLUB.

ANNUAL DINNER.

DR. KOTEWALL'S SPEECH.

The first annual dinner of St. Peter's Young Men's Club was held last night at Lane, Crawford's Restaurant. There was a good attendance and Dr. Kotewall's happy speech was received with great enthusiasm and laughter. He spoke of the good work which the Club had done and of the strides which it had made in so short a time. "If," he said, "the young fellows of St. Peter's Club have no more than tried to do good, it is already something achieved."

Much of the success of the Club, said the speaker, was due to the sympathetic encouragement and kind support of His Lordship the Bishop of Victoria and the Rev. Copley Moyle who acted as President and Vice-President during the first, and probably most difficult year of its existence. The exertions of the committee, Dr. Kotewall added, particularly of the Chairman, the Rev. N. V. Halvard, and the two enthusiastic honorary secretaries, Mr. George Zimmermann and Mr. Peter Pau, have been untiring.

MOTOR-CYCLE RELIABILITY TRIAL.

THE COURSE ARRANGED.

The following is the course for the Motor Cycle Reliability Trial, organised by the Motor Cycle Section H.K.V.D.C., which will be held on Sunday, March 11th. Nothing in the course as outlined below indicates a check. Some of these have been arranged, and all competitors will be notified before the start of the trial where these are located. The secret checks, if any, will not be made known of course.

START.—H.K.V.D.C. Headquarters.

FIRST LAP.—Queen's Road, Arsenal Street, Wanchai, the Praya, North Point, Shaukiwan, Tytan Tuk Reservoir, Tytan Path, Wong Nei Chung Gap, Repulse Bay Road, Victoria Road, Aberdeen, Dairy Farm Hill, Pokfulam Police Station, Reservoir Path, Peak Hotel, Peak Road, Repulse Bay Road, Morrisia Hill, Queen's Road to Garden Road.

SECOND LAP.—Garden Road, Caine Road, Mount Davis Road, Felix Villas, Victoria Road, Aberdeen, Reservoir, Wanchai Gap, Black's Links, Wong Nei Chung Gap, Repulse Bay Road, Repulse Bay, Tytan Tuk, Shaukiwan, Tai-zoo, North Point, Wanchai, the Praya, Queen's Road, Garden Road. THIRD LAP.—Garden Road, Seth's Corner, Peak Path, Peak Hotel, Peak Road, Repulse Bay Road, Wong Nei Chung Gap, Repulse Bay Road, Victoria Road, Aberdeen, Dairy Farm Hill, Mount Davis Road, Felix Villas, Victoria Road, Kennedy Town, Connaught Road, Statue Square, Halt.

FOURTH LAP.—Statue Square, Connaught Road, Kennedy Town, Victoria Road, Repulse Bay, Tytan Tuk, Shaukiwan, Tai-zoo, North Point, Wanchai, the Praya, Arsenal Street, Queen's Road and Garden Road.

FINISH.—H.K.V.D.C. Headquarters.

Competitors will probably be allowed a rest at the end of the third lap before starting on the fourth lap which may have to be done in darkness.

WEATHER REPORT.

FINE TO CLOUDY TO-DAY.

Yesterday's weather report forecast and remarks, issued by the Royal Observatory at 6.35 p.m., stated—

The depression is now N.E. of Tokyo and is deepening. The anticyclone over China is stationary. Fresh to strong monsoon may be expected along the S.E. coast of China and over the China Sea.

Local Forecast:—N.E. winds, fresh; fine to cloudy.

WUHAN MILITARY AUTHORITIES PURSUING THEIR POLICY OF COMMUNISM.

SEARCHING METHODS ADOPTED.

NATIONALIST FINANCE MINISTER NEGOTIATING WITH ACTING "I-G."

SOUTHERN MILITARY LEADERS CONFERRING ON COMBINED ATTACK.

BRITISH MINISTER EXPECTED TO VISIT CANTON SOON.

As Reuter observes, there would appear at present to be a tendency among both the Northern and Southern leaders to confer rather than to fight. Conferences are the order of the day. In Peking the Northern leaders are about to confer chiefly on how to prevent collaboration between Shansi troops and those of the "Christian General" and, if possible, to induce Shansi's "Model Governor" to agree to an armistice. At Kaileng the Southern leaders intend to discuss the best means of continuing the Northern campaign and of effectually combining their forces. Meanwhile, sporadic fighting is reported from various points.

Mr. T. V. Soong, the Nationalist Finance Minister, has been conferring with Mr. Edwards, the acting Inspector-General of the Chinese Maritime Customs, relative to tariff revision.

The native Press reports that Sir Miles Lampson, the British Minister, is on his way to Swatow from Amoy, and that "he is expected to go to Canton on a British cruiser." As a matter of fact, he is due to arrive in Hong Kong to-day.

MORE CONFERENCES THAN WARFARE.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

PEKING, Feb. 17th.

The leaders of both sides seem to be more inclined to hold conferences than to engage in warfare at present.

In view of the alleged changed conditions due to the Chengchow Conference, the Fengtienists are summoning all their leaders to Peking for a further conference.

It is semi-officially stated that serious hostilities are unlikely in the north before March, 1st. Meanwhile the reports that various peace delegates are visiting each other continue.

(Wah Tse Yat Pao.)

SHANGHAI, Feb. 17th.

Marshal Chiang Kai Shek left Hsuehchow for Kaileng, Honan, on the 15th inst. On his arrival at Kaileng, Marshal Chiang will immediately confer with Marshal Feng Yu Hsiang regarding a combined attack on the Northernists. Mr. Chao Pei Lam, General Yen Shih Shan's representative, and other Southern leaders will attend.

THE BRITISH MINISTER.

(Wah Tse Yat Pao.)

SHANGHAI, Feb. 17th.

Sir Miles Lampson, the British Minister to Peking, was on his way to Swatow from Amoy yesterday and is expected to go to Canton on a British cruiser.

CURBING WUHAN "REDS."

(Wah Tse Yat Pao.)

SHANGHAI, Feb. 17th.

In order to remove Communist elements from the Wuhan cities, the military authorities have decided to adopt a searching method. A set of rules has been issued binding all trading firms, residents and public institutions within the city limits to register with the local authorities.

Hankow Troops' Success. The Hankow troops under General Seng Cheng Chi captured Pao Hsin, west of Huangchow, on the 15th inst. Most of the Hunanese troops in Western Hunan have been annihilated.

General Ho.

General Ho Yang Ching arrived at Shanghai yesterday morning. He told pressmen that he would not accept the post of Chief of Staff of the Kuomintang Army headquarters. But he had recommended General Li Leh Chun to take the post.

"PLAIN WORDS TO PEOPLE OF INDIA."

LORD BIRKENHEAD'S POINTED REMARKS.

"COMMISSION WILL CARRY OUT ITS TASK."

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, Feb. 17th.

Lord Birkenhead, Secretary of State for India, in a speech at Doncaster addressed "Plain words to the people of India" in drawing attention to their attitude towards the Simon Commission. "I shall make it as plain as any words at my command will enable me that with the assistance of the Indian Legislatures or without, this Commission will carry out its task to a conclusion." He declared that if political opinion in India, which was the smallest fringe of the whole of India, chose to remain aloof, nevertheless the Commission's work would be performed under the present Government or whatever Government succeeded it. He asked those pledged to boycott the Commission whether a sophisticated electorate in Britain would be likely to be persuaded by such means or that the political-minded in India had proved themselves fit for a great extension of the present constitution. Lord Birkenhead pointed out that on the other hand, by co-operation, they might easily have so proved. He paid a tribute to Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and other responsible Labour leaders in carrying out what they had conceived to be their duty.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

PAN-AMERICAN CONFERENCE.

ARGENTINE DELEGATIONS' RESIGNATIONS.

SETTLEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES.

[REUTER'S AMERICAN SERVICE.]

HAVANA, Feb. 17th.

The resignations of Senor Pueyrredon and the other members of the Argentine delegation, are confirmed as being due to the tariff issue. Correspondence published shows that they resigned following on instructions to sign, with reservations, the projected Pan-American Union Convention even though these were not included in the clause envisaging the removal of tariff barriers whereon he had insisted.

Senor Pueyrredon insisted upon the acceptance of the resignations.

The Committee on Pan American Union Affairs approved of the text of the convention relating to Pan American union and also adopted a resolution to provide for a *modus vivendi* for union organisation until the Convention is ratified. The Committee thereafter discussed the pacific settlement of international disputes.

The Mexican delegate proposed a resolution declaring that all aggressive war should be regarded as illegal and providing that international disputes should be settled by pacific means.

Mr. C. S. Hughes (United States) heartily approved and suggested that American countries should avoid war by the establishment of joint international Commissions on the lines of the American-Canadian Boundary Commission. Mr. Hughes, avoiding reference to the United States' policy in Nicaragua, emphasised that the United States was opposed to any acts of aggression and desired only the prosperity and independence of all American States.

"National Independence?" At the close of yesterday's session, the sub-committee of the conference which is seeking a mutually satisfactory definition of "national independence," the majority of the delegates reported in favour of admitting their inability to agree as to a formula.

The Sub-Committee will meet and draft a formal report to-day.

Will Canada Join?

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17th. Canada's eventual entrance into the Pan-American Union is predicted by Mr. John Barrett, ex-Director of Organisation, in a telegram to the Chairman of the Havana Conference in which he declares that a canvass of public opinion in Canada and the United States had convinced him that the Dominion Government would be represented at the next Pan-American Conference.

OIL TANKER "BLOWS UP."

CAPTAIN AND 13 OF CREW KILLED.

21 SURVIVORS LANDED.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

TOKYO, Feb. 17th.

A trawler has landed 21 survivors including several injured picked up at sea belonging to the 7,000-ton oil-tanker *Chiky* which left San Pedro on January 10th for Japan, and suddenly blew up on February 15th, killing the captain and 13 of the crew.

AMALGAMATION OF TELEGRAPH COMPANIES.

TREASURY ASKED TO INTERVENE.

OWNERSHIP OF PACIFIC CABLE.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, Feb. 16th.

In the House of Commons Commander Bellairs asked Mr. Churchill whether, in view of the fact that trading and empire interests were helped by competition between the telegraph companies, the Treasury would exercise a similar pressure to prevent the amalgamation of companies as they had done in the case of the large banks of the Empire.

Mr. Churchill replied that the subject was comprehensively under review and at present he was in a position to make a statement.

Commander Bellairs asked would Mr. Churchill bear in mind the fear of the public that the action of the Governments concerned might be determined by the ownership of the Pacific cable. "That is the danger we want to avoid," Mr. Churchill replied. He added that the most careful attention was being given to the matter in all its bearings.

SPEED MONSTER DISQUALIFIED.

WORLD'S RECORD ATTEMPT. STRAIGHT FIGHT BETWEEN ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

[REUTER'S AMERICAN SERVICE.]

DAYTONA, Feb. 16th.

Mr. White's American three-engined, 1500 h.p. car has been disqualified from the competition for the world's speed record owing to the absence of clutch, differential and reverse gear.

This means that it will be a straight fight between Capt. Malcolm Campbell, driving his Napier-Campbell "Blue Bird," and Frank Lockard of Indianapolis, with his specially low-built car, the 400 h.p. State, "Black Hawk."

SOVIET DISARMAMENT PROPOSALS.

COMMISSION TO EXAMINE THEM NEXT MONTH.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

GENEVA, Feb. 16th.

The Soviet disarmament proposals will be examined at the meeting of the Preparatory Disarmament Commission on March 15th. The Commission will also discuss the work on arbitration of the Security Committee.

[A Reuter cable of November 30th stated that at Geneva M. Litvinoff read a long statement asserting that no progress had been made with disarmament, and developing the views of the Soviet Government in favour of complete disarmament. He urged the conclusion of convention for complete disarmament, and intense propaganda for peace, and for disarmament. He also proposed the complete abolition of all land, marine, and air forces, the destruction of all means of warfare, and legislative prohibition and military training.

Alternatively he proposed that complete disarmament should be carried out by all the contracting States simultaneously and gradually during the next four years. He then moved a resolution in favour of immediate working out of a draft convention for "complete general disarmament and the convocation, not later than March, 1929, of a disarmament conference to discuss and confirm the proposals of the convention."

Litvinoff was heard respectfully, but his scheme was much criticised in the lobby.

SOVIET APPOINTMENT.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

MOSCOW, Feb. 16th.

Nicholas Kuznetsov, Chairman of the Central Co-operative Council, has been appointed People's Commissary of Agriculture in the place of Alexander Smirnov.

U.S. SHIPPING BOARD VESSELS.

REMAINING PACIFIC COAST CARGO LINES TO BE SOLD.

39 SHIPS IN ALL.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AMERICAN SERVICE.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17th.

The Shipping Board has announced the sale of the three remaining Government-owned cargo lines on the Pacific Coast, namely, the American, Australian and Orient line comprising 21 ships, the Oregon and Oriental line and the American Oriental Mail lines of 11 and 7 respectively.

U.S. NAVAL ESTIMATES.

A FLOOD OF PROTEST.

DELETION OF SUBMARINE PROGRAMME?

[REUTER'S AMERICAN SERVICE.]

NEW YORK, February 16th.

The Washington *Evening Post* states that as a result of the flood of protests against the Government's naval programme, Congress is likely to make considerable cuts in the original estimate of 25 cruisers demanded by the Navy Department. These may be limited to 15, while the appropriation for submarines may be deleted as a result of the sinking of the *SA* and Mr. Kellogg's recent gesture in favour of the abandonment of submarines.

THE ABOLITION OF SUBMARINES.

The British View.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, February 16th.

Britain's attitude towards the proposed abolition of submarines was voiced by Mr. Bridgeman at the Constitutional Club. "Our position is exactly the same as that stated at Washington. We should be glad if submarines could be abolished but the smaller and weaker countries regard submarines as their only weapon, and we have to take them into consideration."

MR. WILBUR'S DIFFICULTY.

REAR-ADMIRAL PLUNKETT'S SPEECH.

NO ENDORSEMENT OF HIS VIEWS.

[REUTER'S AMERICAN SERVICE.]

NEW YORK, Feb. 16th.

Newspapers note the absence of Mr. Wilbur from the banquet on the occasion of Rear-Admiral Plunkett's retirement owing to age. Mr. Wilbur excused himself on the plea that he had to appear before the naval committee of the House of Representatives, but the *New York Times* says that Mr. Wilbur told Col. Simmons, the President of the Marine Association, that he was unable to attend because it would appear that he was endorsing Rear-Admiral Plunkett's speech of January 21st.

In the course of this speech, which evoked widespread criticism, Admiral Plunkett, the Commandant of the New York Navy Yard, stated that the United States is nearer war to-day than ever, because she is pursuing a competitive trade policy and crowding other nations into the background.

FATAL JOURNEY TO DELHI.

INDIAN MEMBER DIES EN ROUTE.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

NEW DELHI, Feb. 16th.

The session has been adjourned owing to the sudden death of the Sind non-Mohammedan rural member Hishabandri Vishandas, who, although seriously ill, came to Delhi from Karachi in response to an urgent Nationalist whip, in order to vote against the Commission. Vishandas was being conveyed to the House in an ambulance car when he died en route.

ANOTHER ARCOS TO GO.

"ECONOMIC REASONS."

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 16th.

For "economic reasons" the Soviet Arcos is closing down shortly, and will leave the continuance of business in the hands of the trade delegation.

OBITUARY.

NOTABLE AMERICAN COMEDIAN.

[REUTER'S AMERICAN SERVICE.]

NEW YORK, Feb. 17th.

The death has occurred of the comedian, Mr. Eddie Foy.

FURTHER TRIBUTES TO LORD OXFORD.

SPEECHES BY THE PREMIER, MR. LLOYD GEORGE AND OTHERS.

PARLIAMENT ADJOURNS IN TOKEN OF RESPECT.

[BRITISH WIRELESS SERVICE.]

Ruohv, Feb. 16th.

Leaders of parties in both Houses of Parliament to-day paid their tribute to the deceased statesman, Lord Oxford and Asquith.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Baldwin, the Premier, said Lord Oxford was essentially a House of Commons man, and was perhaps one of the greatest Parliamentarians of the last century. He was a scholar steeped in classical tradition. His speeches were literature. There was no meretricious adornment, not one excessive word. His argument was closely reasoned and logical, and his whole speech cohered together as if it had been filled in by the brain of a master. His judgment, helped by his temperament, which was essentially judicial, was rarely at fault. Mr. Baldwin thought few leaders in the House of Commons had made fewer mistakes in judging the temper either of his party or of the House. He maintained a poise in all matters connected with the House. Nothing upset him, nothing ruffled him. His personal integrity was unassailable. His loyalty, whether to those whom he served, or to those who served him never failed. It was a loyalty deep seated, built in his character, that wrought no evil and thought no evil. It was a nature large and magnanimous which never harboured a mean thought. He was always ready to let others have the credit while being always ready to take on his shoulders the blame belonging to others. Referring to the bitter controversies in the years immediately preceding the war, Mr. Baldwin declared he could remember no instance in which the dead statesman spoke words that were false, or words that could wound. Throughout his life he conferred a distinction on the public life of this country. Mr. Baldwin concluded: "May it be our lot to leave behind us as fragrant a memory as that of Lord Oxford."

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, the Labour Leader, associated himself with the Premier's tribute. He said Lord Oxford was a party leader, who, in his most stressful moments, never used weapons that were not honourable, or made appeals which were cheap or base. His death snapped a link that bound this generation to the past. He was a cultured gentleman and man of the world looking upon men with humour, toleration and stoicism.

MR. LLOYD GEORGE'S TRIBUTE.

Mr. Lloyd George said that while Lord Oxford during the last three years had been a member of the Upper Chamber, he would always be remembered as Mr. Asquith. He was essentially a House of Commons man. It was generally recognised that no more perfect or finished debater had ever taken part in the discussions of the House of Commons. He always gave the impression, not of an advocate pleading the cause with earnestness and passion, but of a judge summing up facts and delivering judgment. Temperamentally, and as far as mental equipment was concerned, he was essentially judicial. Mr. Lloyd George concluded: "He died on the banks of the Thames. His life was similar to the river, placid, calm and moving with a steady flow, never boisterous or turbulent, even in the very worst weather. He has passed into history and will fill his place there with impressive distinction."

THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

In the House of Lords, the Marquess of Salisbury, the Conservative Leader, said Lord Oxford was a great party leader, statesman and administrator would hold a tremendous position in English history. As Premier in 1814, he had the moral courage to accept the arbitration of war though no man was more opposed to war.

Lord Haldane, for the Labour Party, and Lord Grey for the Liberals, joined in the tribute. Lord Grey, who was Foreign Secretary at the outbreak of the war in 1914, declared that the fact that his country came into the war as it did with practical unanimity was due, he believed, to the effect of the qualities displayed by Lord Asquith.

Both Houses after these speeches adjourned as a mark of respect to the deceased.

THE FUNERAL.

LONDON, February 16th. Lord Oxford will be buried at All Saints Church, Sutton Courtney, which was his country home for many years, on February 20th. Only relatives and friends will be present.

The death has occurred of the comedian, Mr. Eddie Foy.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

THE "FIRST LORD" AND DISARMAMENT.

BRITAIN "HAS PLAYED HER PART TO THE FULL."

[BRITISH WIRELESS SERVICE.]

Ruohv, Feb. 16th.

Mr. Bridgeman, First Lord of the Admiralty, speaking in London on the Navy, said it was not true that the Government had not done their part towards general disarmament since the war. They had played their part to the full.

He said: "We have to remember what our obligations are towards our country and Empire, and to make quite certain we do not run the risk of any drastic reductions, unless other countries in a different position from ourselves do something in return. We stand in a position totally different from that of every other country, and we cannot admit we are in the same position as any other country for we cannot run the risk of losing that power which gives us free access to the seas."

He did not believe a weak British Navy would contribute to the peace of the world. Dealing with the American desire to scrap submarines, Mr. Bridgeman said that was the British Government's proposal at the Washington Conference and they stood by that suggestion. "We should be glad if the submarine could be abolished," he said, "but other weaker and poorer countries regarded the submarine as their only means of defence, and we had to take into consideration that fact."

GERMANY AND LITHUANIA.

TEXT OF ARBITRATION TREATY.

REMAINS IN FORCE FOR TEN YEARS.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BERLIN, Feb. 16th.

The text of the German-Lithuanian Arbitration Treaty, signed on January 19th, lays down that signatories shall submit to the Hague Arbitration Court, or a special arbitration Court, all disputes that cannot be settled diplomatically. The treaty also applies to all disputes involving other Powers. The treaty is to remain in force for ten years and will be automatically extended for a further five years, failing a six month's notice of denunciation.

FRANCE AND WARTIME.

THE ORGANISATION OF THE COUNTRY.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

PARIS, Feb. 17th.

The Senate, in discussing the Bill for the organisation of the country in war time, resolved to exclude women from the general requisitioning of services in war time, it being considered that women volunteers would suffice. It was also decided that the place for the Parliamentarian in war time was Parliament and not at the front.

The Chamber, in their discussion of the question, gave Parliamentarians the right to serve in the Army if they desired.

ACROSS THE ATLANTIC.

LONDON AND NEW YORK CONVERSE.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, Feb. 16th.

The remarkable adaptability of long distance wireless telephony was demonstrated in a wonderful manner to-day, an engineering meeting being held at which one half the participants sat in London and the other half in New York.

The special arrangements of microphones and loud-speakers, which were linked up with the ordinary Transatlantic telephone service, enabled the British Institution of Electrical Engineering and the equivalent institution in America to hold a joint meeting.

Speeches were made by both sides, and conversation went on as though both parties were in the same room.

The demonstration was a great success, and marks another big stride in wireless development.

Parliament Adjourns.

The House of Commons adjourned at 4 o'clock in the afternoon as a tribute of respect to the Earl of Oxford and Asquith.

In moving the adjournment, the Prime Minister, Mr. Baldwin, said: "Perhaps he was one of the greatest parliamentarians of the last century. A fine intellect, a scholar, and a speaker unrivalled in his own generation, he was a man of unassailable integrity, of unwavering loyalty and magnanimity."

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, Mr. Lloyd George, and Mr. T. P. O'Connor also paid tribute to the memory of the Earl of Oxford and Asquith.

LOCAL FOOTBALL.

TO-DAY'S PROSPECTS.

BIG PROGRAMME OF MATCHES.

The following games are down for decision to-day:

H.K.F.C. CHALLENGE SHIELDS.

Senior.

Re-play.

Hong Kong Police v. Club de Recreio, H.K.F.C. ground.

Referee: Sergt. Macken. Linesmen: Pipe Major Macken and Pte. Lamb.

K.O.S.B. v. China Athletic, Sookunpoo ground. Referee: Mr. Barber. Linesmen: S. Sgt. Gilbert and Mr. W. E. Hollands.

This game will start immediately on the close of the junior game.

Second Round.

Kick-off at 4.15 p.m.

Kowloon F.C. v. R.A.F. Kowloon F.C. ground. Referee: Capt. Austin. M.C. M.M. Linesmen: B.Q.M.S. Hutchins and Mr. Stokes.

Scots Guards v. R.A. Chatham Road ground. Referee: Mr. F. Smith. Linesmen: Messrs. Phillips and Presley.

Junior.

Second Round.

Kick-off at 2.30 p.m.

Kowloon Reserves v. Scots Guards Reserves, Kowloon F.C. ground. Referee: Mr. Williams.

China Athletic Reserves v. South China "A", H.K.F.C. ground. Referee: Mr. Lonsdale.

K.O.S.B. Reserves v. Club de Recreio Reserves, Sookunpoo ground. Referee: Mr. Cowan.

Queen's Regt. Reserves v. St. Joseph's "A", Chatham Road ground. Referee: Mr. Presley.

HONG KONG LEAGUE.

Division II. "A".

Kick-off at 2.45 p.m.

R.A. Reserves v. H.K.F.C. Reserves, Caroline Hill ground. Referee: S. Sgt. Gilmour.

Division II. "B".

Kick-off at 4.15 p.m.

China Athletic v. Kowloon "B", Caroline Hill ground. Referee: Gr. Kinsella.

Extra time in all Shield games, if necessary.

TO-DAY'S PROSPECTS.

The Seniors.

The crowd will travel to Sookunpoo to-day to see the re-play between the China Athletic and the K.O.S.B. This game will start as soon as the junior game finishes.

The Athletic with Suen Kum Shun again fit, should fully extend the military side. The play will be of the cup-tie order and neutral linesmen have been appointed to assist the referee. China Athletic on present form should qualify to meet the H.K.F.C. in the next round.

The game on the H.K.F.C. ground between the Hong Kong Police and Club de Recreio should be well contested. The Police will depend on their forwards to carry them through today. The Recreio are a nippy crowd but they will be up against a strong defence.

There are two games in the second round of the competition. The meeting of the R.A. and Guards on the Chatham Road ground should be a battle royal. The Guards are the better team, but Lench will want some stopping. He will be ably assisted by Pulford and Maddocks. Much will depend on the Gunners middle line against a strong attack. On form the Guards should win.

Kowloon F.C. are finding a strong side against the Airmen on the Railway ground. With Northey in shooting form, Avery will have a busy afternoon. Sims is well again and will play to-day.

In the Junior competition, the crowd will be on the H.K.F.C. ground where the Athletic juniors are out against the South China "A". The Athletic should get home easily to-day.

The Juniors.

The K.O.S.B. Reserves, holders of the Junior shield are due to meet the Club de Recreio on the Sookunpoo ground. The K.O.S.B. should win easily.

A good tussle should be seen on the Railway ground between Kowloon Reserves and the Scots Guards. The Guardsmen put on the record score last week, beating St. Joseph's "B" team by nine goals to nil.

Kowloon are putting out a strong side and May should be prominent in the attack. Slipper will keep goal in place of Wood.

St. Joseph's "A" will have a tough proposition when they meet the Queen's on the Chatham Road ground. The Queen's should enter the semi-final.

The League.

In the League, Division II. "A", the H.K.F.C. Reserves are due to meet the R.A. The Gunners should score the points.

In Division II. "B", China Athletic, the present leaders, should take full points from the Kowloon "B".

(Continued on next Column.)

GOLF.

ROYAL HONG KONG GOLF CLUB.

SUNDAY'S STARTING TIMES AT FANLING.

9.24 a.m. F. G. Fowle and B. MacMahon.

9.28 " H. G. Hegarty and E. Davidson.

9.32 " H. F. Bloxham and F. J. de Roure.

9.36 " W. A. Cornell and E. Stone.

9.40 " S. A. Arthur and E. C. Frederick.

9.44 " R. P. Mordie and R. A. Green.

9.48 " A. N. Spencer and A. P. Bungey.

9.52 " A. Leach and F. Cowherd.

9.56 " F. A. Perry and R. Bailey.

10.00 " C. H. Brown and H. A. Mills.

10.04 " T. L. Christie and L. R. Andrews.

10.08 " E. R. Hallifax and E. D. Matthews.

10.12 " A. B. Stewart and R. E. MacDougall.

10.16 " T. Ramsay and H. A. Lummet.

10.20 " F. H. Crapnell and F. Taylor.

10.24 " Capt. Ashby and F. K. Ewart.

10.28 " C. B. Matthews and J. E. Haig.

10.32 " C. B. Johnson and J. D. Humphreys.

10.36 " W. A. Weight and J. P. Sherry.

10.40 " G. F. Costello and B. D. Evans.

10.44 " M. G. Mills and J. R. Raikes.

10.48 " W. C. Clark and C. J. Waddell.

10.52 " A. E. Lissaman and A. Sommerfeld.

10.56 " F. A. Redmond and L. G. S. Dodwell.

11.00 " T. S. Morrison and J. D. Kinnaird.

11.04 " Lieut. Comdr. Brown and G. Murray.

11.08 " J. Cameron and J. Bentley.

11.12 " D. Forbes and D. J. Gilmore.

11.16 " A. R. Cox and R. L. Stewart.

11.20 " A. B. Purves and A. D. Humphreys.

11.24 " W. A. Butterfield and L. Yates.

11.28 " A. K. Henderson and A. O. Brown.

11.32 " Dr. Duncombe and N. K. Littlejohn.

YACHTING.

THE WEEK-END PROGRAMME.

The first race of the Match Box series for "Y" Class yachts, organised by the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club, will be sailed to-day at 2.45 p.m. The preparatory gun will be fired at 2.40.

To-morrow (Sunday) the 5th Championship race for cruisers is to be sailed. The course is Hong Kong Island (S), a distance of 24 miles.

HOCKEY.

THE SIM SHIELD FINAL.

ARMY v. NAVY TO-DAY.

The final game in the Sim Shield competition between the Navy and the Army takes place this afternoon on the United Services Recreation Club ground.

The position at present is that the Navy and the Army each have ten points. Both teams have won five out of six matches played; and both have scored 24 goals. But the Army have eleven goals against them and the Navy only six.

The Club v. R.A.F. match has not been played, but the result will not effect the position at all.

The Shield will be presented after the match.

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RACING NOTES.

SELECTIONS FOR TO-DAY.

[By RAPIER.]

This afternoon will conclude the programme of one of the most successful annual meetings held by the Hong Kong Jockey Club.

Mrs. Dunbar has the distinction to be the first Lady Owner to win the local Derby, and her husband, I feel sure, does not grudge her this share of the stable's many victories.

I was glad to see the "Eve" stable pick up a few wins on the third day. Their ponies seem to improve day by day in every way.

This stable is next to the Dunbar's in wins and places. Mr. Dynasty had rather bad luck with *King of Hearts*, and *Her Apparent* was none to good but I do not think these concerns are likely to be unduly worried by their ill fortune.

Messrs. Hyman and Mackie seem quite satisfied with their results although it looked at one time as if *Peck* was good enough to win the Derby.

The Patersons' stable did not receive their share of wins and this is rather a pity in view of Mrs. J. J. Paterson's early departure for Shanghai. Bute is a first class jockey but if you haven't got the cattle you can't get the wins.

Mr. Ho Kom Tung managed to pick up a few crumbs of comfort on the third day, which is all to the good as he is maintaining a big stable.

Messrs. Dyer and Both have so far had rather a thin time as also have Messrs. Hall and Sheehan but the old ponies 'aint what they used to be. *San Francisco* has not done badly for Mr. H. P. White and it looked as if the Ladies Purse was his, but accidents will happen even on the best regulated race courses.

Charles had rather a raw deal on the third day, and I do not think I helped matters in my description of the Champions race by saying that *Chesapeake Bay* either faded away or was pulled up after the first quarter. It appears that this pony, after his 27 quarter, was anxious to try conclusions with the fence at the far side of the course and Charles had the utmost difficulty in saving himself and the animal from serious injury and from interfering with the rest of the field. That is all the pulling up there was.

Messrs. Reidy and Stanton got their share of the spoils and Stanton's two wins and a third were worthy honours. Harold Seth is not dissatisfied with his stable and more will be heard of it anon. Mr. Moon's initial venture into racing has been fairly successful although his pony has not lived up to Omar Khayyam's selection "O'Moon of my delight that knows no wane."

The starting seems to have met with general satisfaction and Mr. Fiddes Wilson's control of some of the big fields was masterly. Of course, all the starts were not good, but then one would need to be a combination of policeman and anarchist to back the knowing riders and to hold back the inexperienced ones to come up.

"Wise men never sit and wait their loss, but cheerfully seek how to redress their harms."

In this all desperate spirit I put before you my selections for this most difficult of days.

The Hay and Corn Stakes.

1. Loch Tummel.

2. Barley Grass.

3. Scout.

The Lotters Stakes.

1. Wismere Stag.

2. November.

3. Captain or Comrade.

The All Out Stakes.

1. Macao Beauty.

2. Mr. Eve's selected.

3. Mr. Ho Kom Tung's selected.

The Tytan Handicap "A" Class.

1. Fair Eyes.

2. Northern Stag.

3. King Constantine.

The Tytan Handicap "B" Class.

1. King Constantine.

2. Skipper.

3. Berwick.

The Hong Kong Handicap "A" Class.

1. Dunbar's Stable selected.

2. Mr. Eve's selected.

3. Peck.

The Hong Kong Handicap "B" Class.

1. King of the Plains.

2. Dobbin.

3. Bright Eye.

The Professional Cup And Sub-Champions.

1. Horford.

2. Dumfries.

3. Masonic Hall.

4. Erstwhile.

The United Services Cup.

Post entries for this race. Mr. Usher will probably win it with the rider of *Marianne*, taking a place also Mr. Erskine's mount for a place.

The Also Ran Stakes.

1. Coos Bay.

2. Duke of Verona.

3. Captain or Comrade.

The Lucky Stakes.

1. Ukelele.

2. Grey Knight.

3. Misty Eve or Grande del Norte.

(Continued on next Column.)

CRICKET.

TO-DAY'S MATCHES.

The following matches are down for decision to-day:

League: Division I.

Royal Navy v. Royal Artillery.

Division II.

Recreio v. University.

Civil Service v. Kowloon C.C.

Friendly.

Hong Kong C.C. v. R.A.F.

H.K. Electric Co. v. H.K.C.C.

Kowloon C.C. v. Police R.C.

Indian R.C. v. Royal Navy.

H.K.C.C. 1st XI v. R.A.F.

At the Club ground at 2 p.m. to-day.

The Club:—Rev. E. K. Quick (captain), A. W. Hayward, H. V. Parker, A. Baiger, H. J. Armstrong, G. Mead, C. D. Wales, A. Reid and three others to be selected.

H.K.C.C. 2nd XI v. H.K. Electric Co.

At King's Park at 2 p.m.

The Club:—F. H. Pentecost (captain), J. E. Hancock, L. A. R. Dunne, R. W. Lee, S. J. Jordan, C. P. James, O. E. C. Manton, J. R. Collis, E. R. West, A. W. Brown, and J. Hampton.

ARMY SOCCER INTERNATIONAL.

A TRIANGULAR TOURNAMENT.

BRITISH ARMY WIN FIRST ROUND.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, Feb. 16th.

In the soccer International Army triangular tournament, between Great Britain, France and Belgium, the first match was played to-day at Woolwich, and resulted in the British Army team defeating the team representing the Belgian Army by six goals to two goals.

ETIQUETTE CENSOR.

FILM POST FOR MRS. WILFRID ASHLEY.

I understand, writes the *Evening Standard* film critic, that Mrs. Wilfrid Ashley, wife of Colonel Wilfrid Ashley, M.P., is the "well-known society woman" who will act as a "censor of etiquette" at the new Embassy film colony founded by Mr. Lewis Blattner.

Mrs. Ashley's interests are numerous and extend from gardening to child welfare work.

Lady Louis Mountbatten and Mrs. Cunningham Reid, wife of Captain Cunningham Reid, M.P. for Warrington, are her step-daughters.

The precise nature of Mrs. Ashley's co-operation in the new film colony is not indicated, but it is presumably to enable producers to avoid the errors that are so common in American pictures of social life.

HANDICAPS.

The Tytan Handicap "A" Class.

One Mile.

Meanwhile, 160 lbs.: Fair Eyes, 155 lbs.: Brown Jug, 155 lbs.: Northern Stag, 155 lbs.: O'Moon, 163 lbs.: Erstwhile, 158 lbs.: Gala Eve, 163 lbs.: Horsford, 159 lbs.: Dumfries, 165 lbs.: Bloughman, 155 lbs.: Spinner, 150 lbs.: Southern Stag, 155 lbs.: Chatto, 157 lbs.: Masonic Hall, 160 lbs.: Twilight Eve, 160 lbs.: Peter, 162 lbs.: Madeira, 149 lbs.: Green Slip, 148 lbs.: The Haugh, 149 lbs.: Kaa, 162 lbs.: Sea Front, 148 lbs.

The Tytan Handicap "B" Class.

One Mile.

Social Call, 149 lbs.: Busaco, 150 lbs.: Bay of Greenland, 155 lbs.: Easing Wolf, 155 lbs.: Loch Lomond II., 148 lbs.: Lorch Tay, 152 lbs.: Dunder, 148 lbs.: King Constantine, 152 lbs.: Soho, 140 lbs.: The Gannet, 155 lbs.: Liberal Hall, 158 lbs.: Berwick, 155 lbs.: Skipper, 155 lbs.: Siang River, 150 lbs.: Little River, 150 lbs.: Zed, 143 lbs.: The Grouse, 148 lbs.: Tarzan, 152 lbs.: Pook Shau, 150 lbs.: Shingle, 147 lbs.: Galopin, 137 lbs.

The Hong Kong Handicap "A" Class.

One Mile.

Brigade Call, 158 lbs.: Handsome Stag, 150 lbs.: Chesapeake Bay, 163 lbs.: Elliot Bay, 178 lbs.: Bakers Bay, 169 lbs.: Coos Bay, 161 lbs.: Deepwater Bay, 150 lbs.: Hudson Bay, 153 lbs.: Sitting Bull, 173 lbs.: Young Pretender, 165 lbs.: Her Apparent, 163 lbs.: Bengal, 163 lbs.: New Year's Eve, 162 lbs.: Boxing Eve, 163 lbs.: The Goblin, 148 lbs.: The Gomerit, 160 lbs.: Artistic Hall, 145 lbs.: Minor Hall, 150 lbs.: Peck, 163 lbs.: Pickle, 165 lbs.: Comrade, 153 lbs.: Captain, 158 lbs.: Duke of Arctangan, 153 lbs.: Duke of Verona, 158 lbs.: U U II, 158 lbs.: Ukelele, 155 lbs.: San Diego, 168 lbs.: Macao Beauty, 150 lbs.

The Hong Kong Handicap "B" Class.

One Mile.

Barley Grass, 153 lbs.: Borderer, 140 lbs.: Loch Tummel, 140 lbs.: Tangle, 159 lbs.: King of the Plains, 159 lbs.: King Sol, 148 lbs.: Bright Eye, 152 lbs.: Festive Eve, 155 lbs.: The Gnome, 140 lbs.: Watford, 150 lbs.: August, 150 lbs.: Misty Eve, 140 lbs.: Dobbin, 160 lbs.: Roodlegger, 140 lbs.: Bing Boy, 152 lbs.: Grey Eyes, 150 lbs.



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Fortnightly sailings on Wednesdays

Pres. Taft Tues. Feb. 25th
Pres. Jefferson Tues. Mar. 13th
Pres. Lincoln Tues. Mar. 27th
Pres. Madison Tues. Apr. 10th

Pres. Jackson Wel. Feb. 22nd, 9 a.m.
Pres. McKinley Wed. Mar. 7th
Pres. Grant Wed. Mar. 21st
Pres. Cleveland Wed. Apr. 4th

Special Through Rates to Europe, via United States, \$120, \$112. Direct connections with all Atlantic lines. Choice of railway lines across United States and Canada, with liberal stop-over privileges for sight-seeing.

To EUROPE and NEW YORK

Fortnightly sailings on Tuesdays via Manila, Suez, Colombo, Suez Canal, Alexandria, Naples, Genoa, Marseilles, London and New York.

Pres. Hayes Sun. Feb. 25th
Pres. Polk Sun. Mar. 11th
Pres. Adams Sun. Mar. 25th

Pres. Garfield Sun. Apr. 8th
Pres. Harrison Sun. Apr. 22nd
Pres. Monroe Sun. May 6th

To MANILA
Pres. Taft Feb. 25th, 6 p.m.
Pres. Hayes Feb. 25th, 8 p.m.
Pres. McKinley Feb. 25th, 6 p.m.

Pres. Jefferson Mar. 5th, 8 p.m.
Pres. Polk Mar. 11th, 8 p.m.
Pres. Grant Mar. 18th, 6 p.m.

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Depth on Centre of Hull (H.W.O.S.T.) 34 ft. 6 ins.

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ON SALE.
HONG KONG HANBARD REPORTS OF THE MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL for the Session 1927.
Revised by Members.
PRICE 85.
HONG KONG DAILY PRESS OFFICE.

THE "IRENE" PIRACY.

ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY'S AWARDS.

THREE SILVER MEDALS.

Awards have been made by the Royal Humane Society as follows:—Silver Medals: Engine-room Artificer Thomas W. Duckworth, aged 24, Able-Seaman Harry P. Patterson, aged 21, and Stoker 1st Class Edward Wright, aged 23, all of the Submarine L.I. who saved 30 lives at Bias Bay, on October 20th.

The submarine, as reported at the time, sighted the *ss Irene* entering the bay, and suspecting she was in the hands of pirates, ordered her to stop, and as she did not do so she had to be used. She caught fire, and when she was burning the submarine went alongside to take off passengers and crew. This was difficult on account of the swell, and four passengers lost their lives. The three above-named men repeatedly dived from the submarine into the sea and rescued drowning Chinese who had jumped overboard. Each man saved about ten people, who would otherwise without doubt have been drowned, as there was considerable swell, the night was dark, and there was only one small light to illuminate the scene.

NAVAL AND MILITARY ITEMS.

THE SINGAPORE BASE.

Refuel half-crews for the gunboats on the Chinese rivers are on the cruiser *Concord*, which is making a trouping voyage, and was due to leave England about February 15th. The *Concord* will also bring out casual ratings for ships on the East Indies and China Stations, as available, subject to the numbers on board not exceeding the approved peace complement plus the approved number of supernumeraries that can be accommodated.

It is announced that Captain J. Wolfe-Murray, D.S.O., will become Flag Captain to Vice-Admiral Sir Reginald Y. Tyrwhitt, Commander-in-Chief, China, on the transfer of the flag to the new cruiser *Kent*. The *Kent*, one of a batch of five 10,000-ton cruisers of the 1924-25 programme, is due for completion in May. The *Kent* is armed with eight 8-in. and four 4-in. H.A. guns, and has a speed of over 32 knots.

On January 16th, Rymaster Lt. Comdr. E. D. T. Bourcher, late secretary to the Commodore-in-Charge at Hong Kong, took up duty in the office of the First Sea Lord.

The papers at the October examination of Army officers set out the arguments which led to the choice of Singapore in preference to the development of the Australian base at Sydney as an Imperial base. The examiners' report says:—While it may be argued that Sydney has an excellent harbour, needing little development, and that it is in a land of our own people, with superior advantages over Singapore in the way of climate, food supply, and protection from submarines, yet such arguments do not touch the root of the matter. Geographically Sydney is unsuitable. No fleet based on Sydney could prevent the capture of Singapore, involving the disappearance of our Eastern trade and the harnessing of our trade in the Indian Ocean. Further, Sydney is dependent on long lines of communications for supplies of oil and suitable coal for ships, while Singapore is the re-fuelling station between Ceylon and Australia. A fleet based on Singapore would protect India, Burma, the Persian oil fields, and our trade routes to the East.

VESSELS IN PORT.

The following is a list of vessels which were in port on Friday, February 17th:—

British: *Amos, Khgher, Yun-nan, Nanning, Chonan, Prina, Haining, Burnee, City of Benares, Sui Sang, Kaying, Nanghai, Haidir, Taltithia, Sunning, Han Yang, Huichow, Cape St. Agnes, Apsey, Gorgistan, Wing Hong, Sumatra, Taikoo, Linan.*

American: *West Cuscuta.*

Norwegian: *Sval, Prominent, Solviken, Jah Ludov, Mowinkel, Hiram, Maud, Butnia, Eiger, Kronviken.*

Panama: *Pawnee.*

Swedish: *Canton.*

German: *Celtn.*

Japanese: *Unai Maru No. 3, Taigo Maru, Tensho Maru, Korai Maru, Mike Maru, Taiyo Maru, Shima Maru, Tansu Maru, Amagami Maru, Taiyu Maru, Lushan Maru, Tyme Maru, Taikwa Maru, Nittaga Maru.*

Chinese: *Sunkong, Sun Sai Kai, Confucius, Dewawong, Hsin Wah, Hwah Cheng, Chung Wai, Yuan Jung, Lee On, Derwent, Hoi Cheong, Haiman, Ban Foo Soon, Poo Yee, Lee Cheong, Gen. H. Knor, Man Sun.*

Dutch: *Tjikarang, Tjilicong, Hankou, Jan, Otto, Hong Kong.*

Portuguese: *Kong On, King On.*

French: *Song Bo.*

BIG SHIPBUILDING ORDER.

\$100,000 U.S.A. CONTRACT FOR WALLSEND.

Messrs. Swan, Hunter, and Wigham Richardson, of Wallsend, have received an order for a train carrying ship for the United States. The vessel, of about 8,000 tons, is intended to carry railway cars from the United States to Cuba. The steamer will be owned by the Wallsend Shipway Company.

HONG KONG METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

Hong Kong Observatory, February 17th

	Erroneous Day at 2 p.m.	On Date at 6 a.m.	On Date at 2 p.m.
Barometer...	30.11	30.20	30.17
Temperature	64	70	60
Humidity...	61	70	60
Wind—			
Direction	SW	NNE	ESE
Force...	2	1	3
Weather...	B	B	C
Rain...	0.00	0.00	0.00
Highest open-air Temperature, 18th: 6			
Lowest open-air Temperature, 17th: 5			
B=Blue sky; C=Cloudy; D=Drizzle; F=Fog; L=Lightning M=Mist; O=Overcast; P=Partial showers; Q=Qualls; R=Rain; T=Thunder.			

CANADIAN PACIFIC

QUICKEST TIME ACROSS THE PACIFIC.
TO VICTORIA AND VANCOUVER

Steamers	H. Kong	S'hai	Kobe	Yokohama	Vancouver
EMPERESS OF RUSSIA	Mar. 7	Mar. 10	Mar. 13	Mar. 16	Mar. 25
EMPERESS OF ASIA	Mar. 28	Mar. 31	Apr. 3	Apr. 6	Apr. 15
EMPERESS OF CANADA	Apr. 18	Apr. 21	Apr. 24	Apr. 27	May 6
EMPERESS OF RUSSIA	May 8	May 11	May 14	May 17	May 26
EMPERESS OF ASIA	May 29	June 1	June 4	June 7	June 16
EMPERESS OF CANADA	June 20	June 23	June 26	June 29	July 8
EMPERESS OF RUSSIA	July 11	July 14	July 17	July 20	July 29
EMPERESS OF ASIA	Aug. 1	Aug. 4	Aug. 7	Aug. 10	Aug. 19

(E/Asia and E/Russia call at Nagasaki the day after departure from Shanghai)

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HONGKONG-MANILA SERVICE

Leave Hong Kong	Arrive Manila	Leave Manila	Arrive Hong Kong
Feb. 24	Feb. 26	EMPERESS OF RUSSIA	Mar. 3
Mar. 10	Mar. 12	EMPERESS OF ASIA	Mar. 24

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£120, £115, £110, £102, £83, via SAN FRANCISCO.
G\$440, G\$420 via JAPAN AND SEATTLE.

SAN FRANCISCO via Shanghai, Japan Ports & Honolulu.

NIBERIA MARU (Call Los Angeles) Tuesday, 26th Mar.

TAITO MARU Tuesday, 26th Mar.

LONDON via Singapore, Suez, Marseilles & Ports.

KATORI MARU Saturday, 10th Mar.

ATSUTA MARU Saturday, 10th Mar.

SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila & Ports.

MISHIMA MARU Wednesday, 22nd Feb.

TANGO MARU Wednesday, 22nd Feb.

BOMBAY via Singapore, Penang & Colombo.

MOJI MARU Tuesday, 26th Feb.

SADO MARU Saturday, 10th Mar.

SOUTH AMERICA (West Coast) via Japan, Honolulu,

Los Angeles, Mexico and Panama.

ANYO MARU Thursday, 15th Mar.

SOUTH AMERICA (East Coast) via Singapore, Cape

Town & Ports.

KAWACHI MARU Wednesday, 29th Feb.

NEW YORK and/or BOSTON via PANAMA.

CALCUTTA MARU Thursday, 23rd Feb.

LIVERPOOL via Singapore, Colombo, Port Said & Ports.

LYONS MARU Saturday, 10th Mar.

CALCUTTA via Singapore, Penang & Bangkok.

MOBIKA MARU Wednesday, 22nd Feb.

NAGASAKI, KUBE & YOKOHAMA.

AKI MARU Friday, 16th Mar.

SHANGHAI, KUBE & YOKOHAMA.

KANAGAWA MARU (Kobe direct) Sunday, 19th Feb.

KAGOME MARU Monday, 20th Feb.

NAGANO MARU (Moji direct) Wednesday, 22nd Feb.

+ Cargo only.

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will be loading for PORT SAID, MARSEILLES, HAVRE,
DUNKIRK, ROTTERDAM, AMSTERDAM, HAMBURG,
COPENHAGEN and other SCANDINAVIAN & BALTIC PORTS
On or about 5th March.

Further Sailings	Expected here on or about	Will leave homeward-bound on or about
M.S. "Australia"	28th February	20th March
M.S. "Asia"	28th February	5th April
M.S. "Africa"	28th March	30th April
M.S. "Malaya"	18th April	27th May
M.S. "Danmark"	25th May	30th June

Optional Bills of Lading issued to United Kingdom Ports.

For further particulars, please apply to—

JOHN MANNERS & CO., LTD.

Agents.

Shipping News

Daily Statement, Waterfront News, etc.

YESTERDAY'S FREIGHT RETURNS.

LOCAL IMPORTS FAIR.

THROUGH CARGO FORMAL.

There were fourteen arrivals and 13 departures recorded at the Harbour Office during the 24 hours ended at 9 a.m. yesterday, but the cargoes manifested for this port were again low. Through cargo, was somewhat higher than the previous day, and up to the average.

The total amount of freight imported into Hong Kong was 11,462 tons of which only 1,968 tons were carried by four British steamers. The two best returns, however, were shown by a Dutch steamer *Tjibana* with 4,325 tons from Batavia, and the British steamer *Hallam* with 1,030 tons arriving from Liverpool and Singapore.

Through freights amounted to 20,108 tons of which 15,071 tons were carried by four British vessels. The two best returns were by the *Tjibana* (British) with 5,000 tons from Canton, and the *s.s. Coblenz* (German) from Hamburg and Manila, with 7,000 tons.

Arrivals And Departures.

The following were the arrivals and departures during the period under review:—

	Arr.	Dep.
British	1	3
Japanese	2	2
Norwegian	1	1
Chinese	3	3
Dutch	3	1
French	1	0
German	1	1
Total	14	13

VESSELS EXPECTED.

American Mail Line.

President Jackson, Feb. 20th.

Australian-Oriental Line.

Taiping, Mar. 9th.

Change, April 6th.

Bank Line.

City of Durham, March 16th.

City of Dunkirk, Mar. 17th.

City of Bournemouth, April 11th.

City of Cardiff, April 11th.

City of Bristol, April 14th.

City of Birmingham, May 4th.

City of Chester, May 12th.

City of London, May 25th.

City of Tokyo, June 8th.

City of Cardiff, June 22nd.

Ben Line.

Benlauer, Feb. 20th.

British India and Apeal Line.

Taima, to-morrow.

Taima, Feb. 24th.

Taima, Feb. 28th.

Canadian Pacific Line.

Empress of Russia, Feb. 24th.

Taima, Feb. 24th.

Doddell & Co.

Romola, March 1st.

Taima, March 9th.

Dollar Steamship Line.

President Taft, to-morrow.

East Asiatic Co., Copenhagen.

Jaia, Feb. 28th.

Africa, Mar. 28th.

Malaya, April 15th.

Danmark, May 25th.

Eastern and Australian Lines.

St. Albans, Mar. 5th.

Arafura, April 2nd.

Elgin Fruit Line.

Autolique, Feb. 20th.

Bellerophon, Feb. 21st.

Bellona, Feb. 21st.

Polyphemus, Feb. 21st.

Calchas, March 3th.

Sarpedon, Mar. 3th.

Rhesus, Mar. 16th.

Teiresias, Mar. 18th.

Tyndarus, Mar. 18th.

Menelaus, Mar. 22nd.

Eurycleia, Mar. 27th.

Automedon, April 1st.

Patroclus, April 10th.

Protesilaus, April 10th.

Phaenias, April 15th.

Knight of Companion, April 21st.

Orestes, April 22nd.

Laomedon, April 24th.

Dimed, April 25th.

Talthyphus, May 1st.

Machon, May 2nd.

Antenor, May 3rd.

Tracer, May 22nd.

Pyrrhus, May 30th.

Atreus, June 27th.

Lycoris, July 25th.

Glen Line.

Glenace, Mar. 2nd.

Carnarthen, March 7th.

Glenagur, March 18th.

Glenara, April 6th.

Hamburg-Amerika Linie and

Rugby Stimmes Linie.

Emil Kirdorf, Feb. 25th.

Havelland, March 1st.

Havensin, March 7th.

Scheer, Mar. 12th.

Carl Legien, March 20th.

Java-China-Japan Line.

Tjibana, Feb. 20th.

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DAILY WATERFRONT NEWS.

GALLANTRY AT SEA.

CHINESE SEAMAN AWARDED SILVER MEDAL FROM H.M. THE KING.

[BY LONGSHOREMAN.]

At the Harbour Office yesterday morning Commander G. F. Hole presented to Seaman Lam Po of the *s.s. Boura Castle*, the Board of Trade, London silver medal awarded by His Majesty The King, in recognition of his gallantry in saving life at sea, in connection with the wreck of the British steamer the *s.s. Loong Sang* which foundered in Hong Kong harbour during the Typhoon of 15th August, 1927.

This is the fifth medal of its kind awarded by H.M. The King. The medal was not presented to Seaman Lam Po until yesterday as he had been away from the Colony during this time.

Carrying Dangerous Goods.

At the Marine Court yesterday morning the master of a trading junk was charged before Comdr. G. F. Hole with carrying dangerous goods, to wit 200 tins of kerosene, and anchoring in a place other than a dangerous goods anchorage, namely Shaikwan Bay. The defendant pleaded guilty and was fined \$100 with an alternative of 2 months' hard labour.

Unlicensed Cargo.

A Chinese mistress of a passenger boat was charged before Comdr. G. F. Hole at the Marine Court yesterday morning with a breach of conditions of her licence, to wit, carrying a cargo of 14 small pigs while her licence allowed only a cargo of personal luggage. The woman pleaded guilty and a fine of \$10 was imposed.

Asiatic Deck Passengers.

The Asiatic deck passengers arriving into the Colony during the 24 hours ended at 9 a.m. yesterday morning numbered 900.

WARSHIPS IN PORT.

Warships and auxiliaries in port yesterday were:—

North Wall Basin, *Carlisle*, *Peter*; South Wall Basin, *Cicada*, *Tern*, *Gannet*; East Wall Basin, *S/Ms. L.L. L.27, Faulkner*; North Arm, *Hollyhook*, *Herald*, *Ambrose*, *S/Ms. L.L. L.2, L.3, No. 1 Buoy*; *Argus*; No. 2 Buoy, *Margaret*; No. 3 Buoy, *Stirling*, *Starncloud*; No. 4 Buoy, *Titania*, *S/Ms. No. 8*; *Scaph*, *Thracian*; No. 11 Buoy, *Somme*, *Sepoy*; No. 12 Buoy, *Serapis*, *Sirdar*; No. 13 Buoy, *Brice*; No. 14 Buoy, *Ruthenia*, *Kharki*; *Kowloon Anchorage*, *Portol*, *Belgo*, *Fancol*, *Foreign*, *Meb of War*;—U.S.S. *Ashville*; Portuguese, *Pera*; *Alqueru*; Italian, *S. Cubato*; Japanese, *Uji*.

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"CITY OF MADRAS" ... Havre, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg ... 25th March

"CITY OF GLASGOW" ... Havre, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg ... 24th April

"CITY OF EASTBOURNE" ... Havre, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg ... 25th May

AUSTRALIA SINGAPORE/AUSTRALIA

"KAZEMBE" ... Leaves Singapore ... 7th May

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"CITY OF DUNKIRK" ... via Suez Canal ... 24th April

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DIRECT ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS.
(Under Contract with H.M. Government.)

Steamship	Tons.	From Hongkong (about)	Destination.
"KHYBER"	9,114	18th Feb. Noon.	Marseilles, L'don., Antwerp & Hull.
"NELLORE"	6,853	25th Feb.	Marseilles and London.
"KIDDERPORE"	5,334	23rd Feb.	Straits, Colombo & Bombay.
"MACEDONIA"	11,130	3rd Mar.	Marseilles and London.
"ALIPORE"	5,273	7th Mar.	Straits, Colombo & Bombay.
"KRIVA"	9,135	10th Mar.	Marseilles, London and Antwerp.
"KASHMIR"	9,985	17th Mar.	Marseilles, L'don., Antwerp & Hull.
"MAZAPORA"	6,718	15th Mar.	Straits, Colombo & Bombay.
"KASHMALA"	9,125	14th Mar.	Marseilles and London.
"KANTUA"	10,946	31st Mar.	do.
"KALYAN"	9,134	7th April	Marseilles, London and Antwerp.
"MONGOLIA"	16,504	14th April	Marseilles and London.
"NAGPORE"	5,233	21st April	do.
"MOREA"	10,953	23rd April	do.
"KASHGAR"	9,005	12th May	Marseilles, London and Antwerp.
"JEYPORE"	5,313	19th May	Marseilles and London.
"MALWA"	10,986	26th May	do.
"DELTA"	5,067	9th June	Marseilles, London and Antwerp.
"NOVARA"	9,389	10th June	Marseilles and London.
"BANGURA"	16,801	23rd June	do.
"KHYBER"	9,114	7th July	Marseilles, London and Antwerp.
"NANKIN"	7,053	14th July	Marseilles and London.
"RAWALPINDI"	16,619	21st July	do.
"KASHMIR"	5,585	4th Aug.	Marseilles, London and Antwerp.
"RAJPUTANA"	16,563	18th Aug.	Marseilles and London.
"KALYAN"	9,144	1st Sept.	Marseilles, London and Antwerp.
"MALWA"	10,986	10th Sept.	Marseilles and London.

